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# AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

APRIL 1942



THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK MONTHLY

10 CENTS A COPY

# Vaccines are Vital to the Meat Supply of America

**W**ITHOUT the protection of vaccines, disease losses would run into many millions every year.

Vaccines minimize these losses. Especially do they save livestock of our western ranches from devastating infections. Vaccines help stabilize the production of America's vital meat supplies.

As originator of Blackleg Bacterin and producer of dozens of other dependable biologic and medicinal products, the O. M. Franklin Serum Company has had a helpful part in contributing to the food resources of this country.

Most noteworthy is the remarkable record of lasting immunity conferred by Franklin Concentrated Culture Blackleg Bacterin. This record, covering the past 19 years, is outstanding for freedom from loss.

Powerful potency is achieved by condensing the major immunizing elements of more than 10 cc of whole culture into a small 1 cc dose—a Double Strength vaccine as compared with the original 5 cc whole culture dose. The price is 10 cents a dose, less in quantities.

## FRANKLIN Brucella Abortus Vaccine

(Bovine Abortion Vaccine)

Deal with Infectious Abortion (Bang's disease) the approved way with vaccine made from strain 19. Clean up your cow herd. Clear the way for a full calf crop. Price per single dose 35 cents, less in quantity.

## FRANKLIN Chauvei-Septicus Clostridium Bacterin

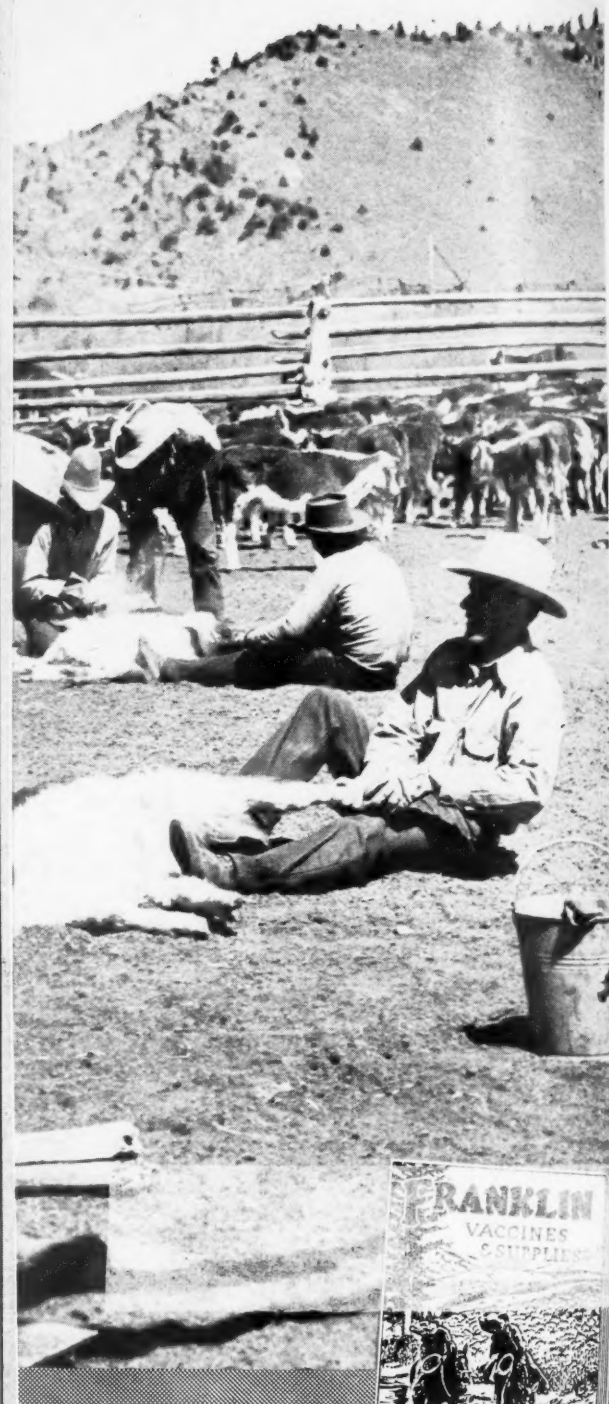
New protection against both Blackleg and Blackleg-like organisms that cause Malignant Edema. Full immunizing dose for each condensed now into a 2 cc dose selling at 10 cents a dose. Double protection for the price of one.

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**Colorful Catalog FREE**  
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## LETTERS

### ANOTHER GOOD YEAR COMING

Practically all the cattle in this territory have been marketed or will be this month, except where feeding will go into the summer. There has been no snow all winter and feeding conditions have been the best in years. Since the opening of the union stockyards at West Fargo, more farmers everywhere around have turned to feeding some sort of livestock with the idea in mind of having a more steady income the year round; and most of them have realized the difference in feeding good cattle as compared with the poorer. The coming year promises to be another good one. With an abundance of fall rains and the frost practically gone, field work will probably begin by April 1; and barring any excessive drought most feeders are planning on feeding more livestock this year, provided the replacement stock is available.

Estimated increase of hogs in the state is about 17 per cent over 1941 but will no doubt be less when marketing time arrives, as there have been several outbreaks of negro already that have taken some of the breeding stock since the original estimate. With proper lambing conditions, the supply of lambs should be well above the 1941 supply. A good many lamb growers are still trying to pick up bred ewes to add to the increase. —CENTRAL CO-OP ASS'N, Cass County, N. D.

### INTEREST IN MINERALS

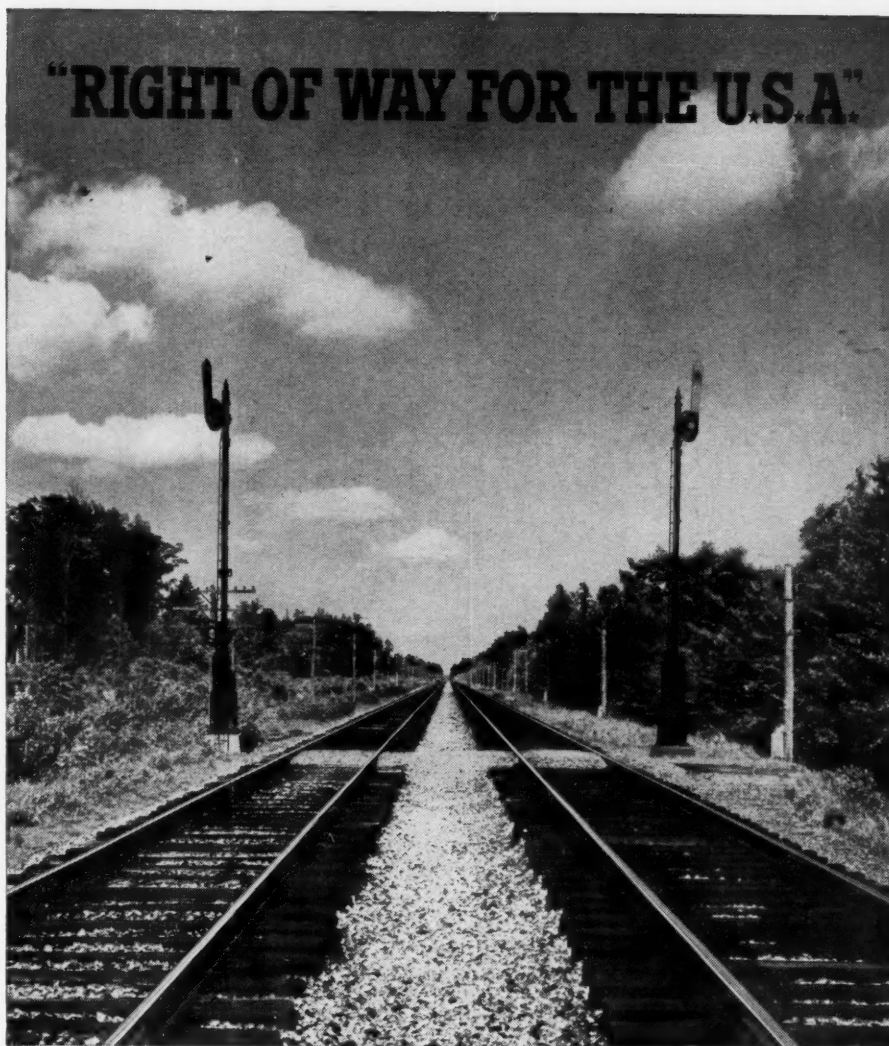
I was particularly interested in the article in the March PRODUCER on mineral deficiencies in Texas. The conclusions are identical with those held by the sanitary boards and animal husbandry men of Montana and Wyoming. Now that the subject is being aired, stock raisers in this country are beginning to recognize the conditions as existing in their herds to a greater or less extent. In our own case (Quarter Circle U Ranch) it is difficult to estimate the loss in weight of our cattle due to lack of phosphorus. We feed bonemeal on the range, but there always will be the difficulty of securing proper assimilation in sufficient quantities daily in all the cattle on the range to meet their estimated requirements. The dicalcium used in the water is a possible answer, but we depend mainly on springs and reservoirs. —LYMAN BREWSTER, Rosebud County, Mont.

### POORER QUALITY SHOWING UP

Conditions here are as good as I have ever seen in thirty-seven years—moisture deeper, more water in reservoirs, more feed available. Grass cannot but be good for the first half of the summer. Unfavorable factors are: Much feed damaged by too much rain and snow;

(Continued on Page 29)

April, 1942



**UNCLE SAM** gets the green light on the railroads today. We're sure you'd want it that way—for America has a war to fight all over the world, and a job at home to produce and deliver in overwhelming volume the things fighting men need. *These come first among the million tons of freight moved a mile on the rails every minute.*

The railroads are united in working with each other—with industry and farmers—with the government—to keep America's great war program rolling.

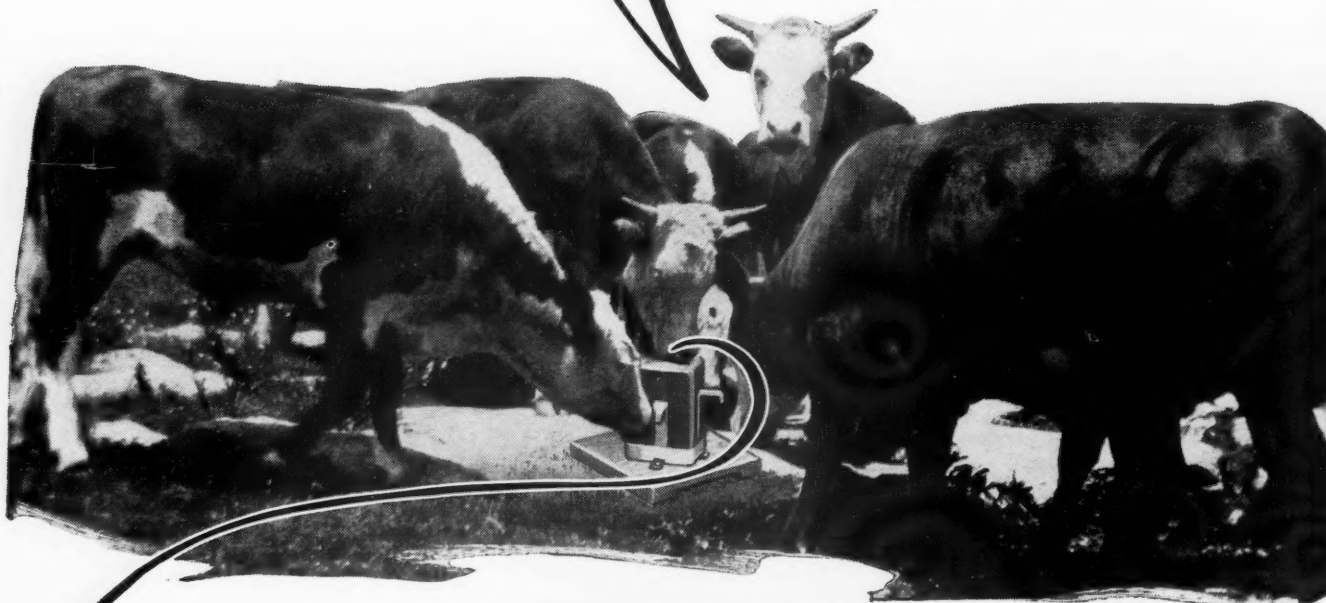
Whether the job calls for passenger equipment or freight—whether it's one of moving troops by the hundreds of thousands, moving raw materials or finished fighting machines—every railroad man knows that the first rule today is, "Right of Way for the U. S. A."



ASSOCIATION OF  
**AMERICAN RAILROADS**

WASHINGTON, D. C.

**MOORMAN'S EH?..LET ME  
IN...I NEED IT TOO!**



**"COMPLETE MINERAL BALANCE PUTS EXTRA  
PROFITS IN LIVESTOCK FEEDING" Say Stockmen  
Everywhere**

As experienced stockmen know, most ranges no longer supply enough minerals for modern cattle feeding and breeding: Each 1,000-lb. steer sent to market takes about 50 lbs. of minerals out of the soil, and that has been going on for generations.

An adequate supply of minerals is essential not only for proper growth and development, but also for good reproduction. Cows on mineral deficient ranges may calve only every other year, or their calves may be subnormal in strength and vitality.

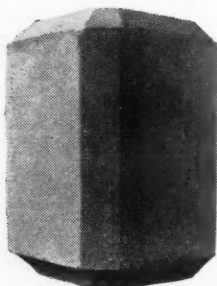
A cow with calf has a double duty—she must maintain her own body, as well as furnish everything needed for the development of the calf. If necessary, she sacrifices minerals for the calf from her own body. So, the logical and economical course is to see that cows get enough minerals for both jobs.

Most ranchers are keenly aware of these conditions and offset them as well as they know how by feeding some sort of minerals. As a rule, they realize chances are all against their

methods making a satisfactory balance in the ration, but they have no way of finding out how much or what minerals they need. Many of the nation's foremost stockmen solve that problem to their entire satisfaction by feeding MoorMan's Minerals for Range Cattle.

They know that MoorMan formulas are dependable because they are the result of over 50 years of experience, plus constant research and experiment backed by practical feeding experiments.

Why not find out what MoorMan Feeding can do for you? There is a special MoorMan Mineral Feed for each particular need. Supplied in \*powder or block form. Blocks are especially convenient and easy to handle—weatherproofed all the way through to prevent waste due to rain, snow or wind. Mail coupon below for full details. No obligation.



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**BLOCKS  
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**MoorMan's**

**MINERAL  
FEEDS**

**MOORMAN MFG. CO., Dept. D-100, Quincy, Ill.**

**MOORMAN MFG. CO., DEPT. D-100, QUINCY, ILL.**

Rush me details on MoorMan's Mineral Feeding for

(Range cattle.....drylot feeding.....  
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County.....

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# AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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Volume XXIII

APRIL, 1942

Number 11

## National Forests and National Defense

By A. D. MOIR

Senior Forester, U. S. Forest Service

DOWN IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER of Colorado is an area totaling nearly a quarter of the state and larger than West Virginia—all rough, mountainous country, too rugged for raising crops on a profitable scale.

In this area are seventeen counties containing altogether 15,909,120 acres; and of all this vast territory, one-fourth, or, to be exact, 27 per cent, is privately owned, with three of the seventeen counties containing only 10 per cent patented land. The remaining three-fourths, including nearly 7,000,000 acres in the national forests, is part of the public domain.

On this nearly 16,000,000 acres, there is a population of 142,000 people, providing an average of 112 acres to surround each man, woman, and child, which would seem to the average city dweller an appalling amount of space.

Many of these people, however, are actual pioneers of the area, whose tenancy has existed for long years and who

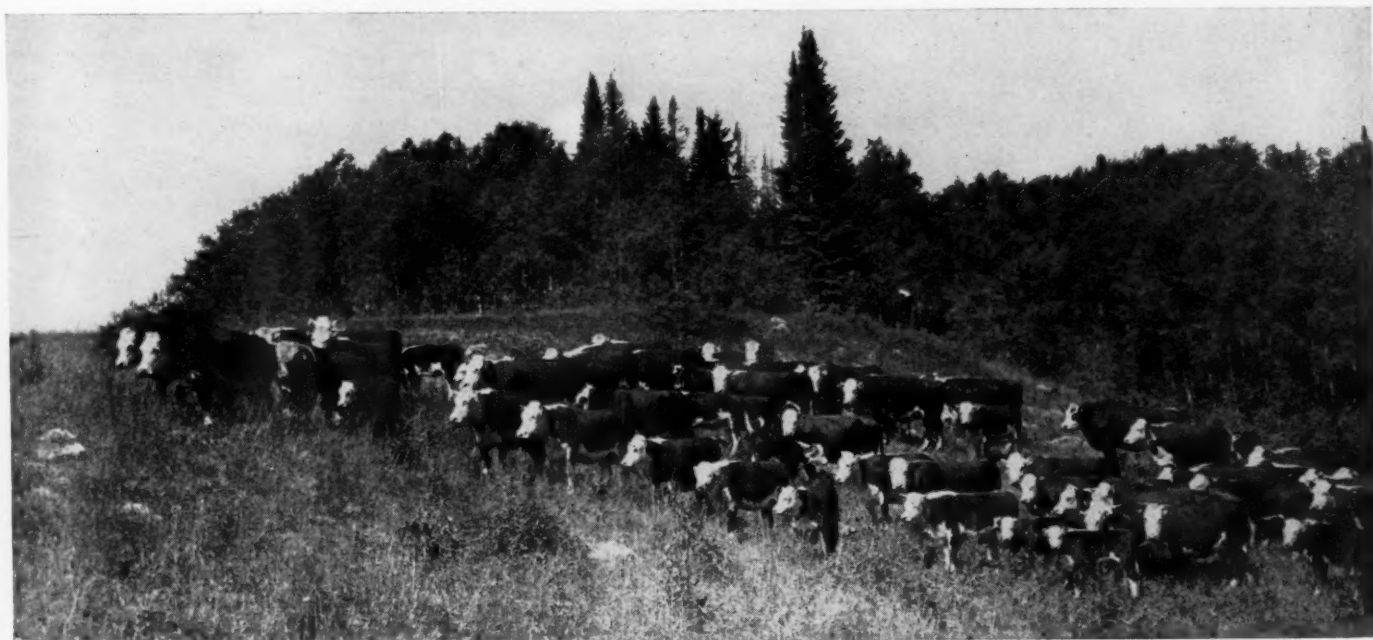
have developed the country and prospered with it. Others, poorer but hopeful, are either later additions or less favorably situated; but all are of the sturdy, independent breed of Westerner, whose whole economic structure is founded upon the knowledge and the experience necessary to engage in the hazard of the raising of livestock—men who would need many years to learn other methods of earning a living.

Naturally, this area is tremendously important to the general public from the point of view of watershed protection and timber reserves. But in a thinly settled state, where much other land is better adapted to profitable cultivation, its chief value so far has been the very important one of cattle and sheep production on a large scale, since approximately 300,000 range cattle and 700,000 stock sheep make up the breeding herds, and the cash income from cattle, sheep, and wool raised totals \$10,000,000 a year.

Now, considering the amount of pri-

vately owned land in these counties, it is obvious that without the use of the public domain for grazing, this income, these people, and the much-needed beef, mutton, and wool produced, would be cut almost to the vanishing point. Such an event would not at any time be good for the country; our own meat supply is unquestionably of major importance and economically essential, both for direct supply to the country's markets and for price control on imported animal products. But now, with our nation engaged in a war to the finish and with the probability that for many years to come this hemisphere will be the main source of food and animal products for our allies, a shortage might be tragic. Thus, with the once enormous western ranges now so greatly reduced by settlement, such areas as described are of steadily increasing importance.

There has been for a number of years agitation by overenthusiastic conservationists, wildlife organizations, and com-



Cattle grazing on Gunnison National Forest in Colorado

Record Stockman Photo

petitive stockmen for the removal of livestock from national forest range, with somewhat exaggerated reports of the damage done by overgrazing and consequent erosion, as well as what has been designated "unfair competition" in complaints by non-permittee stock raisers.

About five years ago, "Ding" Darling, famous cartoonist, author, and erstwhile chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service,

published an article, taxing the government with buying up and destroying meat animals on the one hand and encouraging their production, through grazing on the national forests, on the other. This article created something of a stir at the time and has since been widely quoted; but that was five years ago, and the situation has changed. No American participation in a war was foreseen. But,

even then, the loss of grazing privileges would have permanently disabled the economy of the very class that the government was trying to aid.

While the case against stock grazing on public lands, especially on the national forests, has had wide publicity, very little mention has been made of the necessity of such grazing of public lands to maintain the local economy in many western areas similar to this in southwestern Colorado. These people are independent of charity, too, governmental or otherwise; they spend their incomes in this country; they aid in furnishing the raw materials to the thousands of workers in the food, textile, and kindred industries. Who can put too much emphasis on wool in times like these, when tens of thousands of Nazis suffered crushing defeats in icy Russia simply because they lacked warm clothing? Or on beef, when the personal stamina of a people may bring it victory?

So far as erosion is concerned, anyone who knows the western states at all knows too that erosion can, and frequently does, begin with no cause other than the action of wind and water. No one to date has claimed that the Grand Canyon of the Colorado or the Canyon of the Yellowstone (two of the best-known examples of erosion in the United States) were due to overgrazing. In windy, mountainous country, with sparse vegetation, erosion will occur if no other animal than a mountain goat has passed that way.

It is true that in the eleven western range states "only" one-fourth of the stock sheep, exclusive of lambs, and one-fifth of the range cattle, exclusive of dairy stock and calves, graze on the national forests; that even in a state like Colorado, one-fifth of whose total area is national forest, "only" 30 per cent of the range cattle and 50 per cent of the stock sheep graze on the forests. It is also true (since the average annual period that the forest is used is four and one-half months by cattle and three months by sheep) that the national forest range supplies "only" 12 per cent, at best, of the yearly feed requirement of Colorado's total number of range cattle and stock sheep.

Thus, one can see that those not familiar with the details of the livestock industry in the mountain sections of the West might minimize the importance of forest grazing and pasturage of public lands as a whole, though it is not easy to accept such depreciation when we are mobilizing every ounce of our resources.

But consider this: In the seventeen counties described, 21 per cent, or nearly one-fourth, of the all-year food requirements of all range cattle and stock sheep comes from national forest range. And, since four-fifths of these sheep graze on the forests during the critical period when lambs are being grown and fattened for early marketing, it is safe to assume that the forest range provides 60 per cent of the food value of all lambs marketed from this particular area, while use of other public range under the ad-



Johnny Esird Photos

Top photo: Sheep grazing at the head of Park Creek on Rio Grande National Forest. Lower: Allen S. Peck, regional forester, examining cattle on Rio Grande National Forest land.





ministration of the Grazing Service provides one-half as much as the forests.

The average western mountain ranch, even with skillful management, does not produce a large income. Now, with forest permits averaging 80 cattle and 1,000 sheep in Colorado and considering long feeding seasons and heavy transportation costs to market, it is difficult to see wherein lies the unfair competition with southern or midwestern livestock producers, or even with western non-forest stock raisers—men whose ranches are removed from the mountains (with their long winters) and are near the larger centers of population.

It is also true that during the first World War forest ranges were deliberately overstocked in the drive to produce food for ourselves and our allies and that we have not yet fully overcome the bad effects produced on mountain range nor the resistance by a few shortsighted stockmen to a counterbalancing cut in their permits to allow regeneration of the depleted areas. There is at present, however, reason to believe that the efforts of most of the stockmen in co-operation with the Forest Service will soon have the range capacities balanced with permitted use, with natural reseeding taking care of a sustained production.

Conservation organizations should during this war devote themselves to prevention of any tendency to overstock these ranges. All of us agree that there must be some brake on the use of national forests for production. Lack of it might well prove the ruin of invaluable natural resources.

On the other hand, it is never wise to become fanatical, to eliminate, with a little knowledge of a large subject and in the name of conservation, the use of carefully controlled and nationally needed pasturage on the forests and other public lands at the expense of local economy of many western communities and—far more important—at the cost of the nation as a whole.

Stock raising and all its by-products are primarily important to a hundred industries. To curtail it without actual necessity would not only raise the prices of all these products beyond the reach of the average citizen—and it's going to be hard to keep prices down in any event—but would cost many times the amount spent by sportsmen in the entire public domain in fishing, hunting, and other forms of outdoor recreation.

Here's just one example: Without the constant presence of the stockman on the national forest for the primary purpose of managing and handling his livestock and with the additional hazard of unused vegetation on the ground, fires from lightning and other causes starting in inaccessible mountain country would devastate tremendous areas of valuable timber before they could be controlled. Small fires which are now extinguished as a matter of self-protection by the stockman and herder would become large enough to cost the public increased taxes and the loss of a valuable resource.

# STEPPING UP EFFICIENCY IN CATTLE PRODUCTION

By C. A. BRENNAN

**THE FOOD VALUE AND FATTEN-**ing ability of most grasses cured on the stem declines rapidly soon after the forage reaches maturity, even though an abundance of dry feed is available. Cattle that have been making good gains start to shrink and lose weight with progressive rapidity as the season advances. The weight of the beef turn-off determines profit or loss and sometimes success or failure of the enterprise. Therefore it is important to keep the beef turn-off gaining right up to selling time. The gaining period on grass may be lengthened by having irrigated grass and clover pastures available for beef cattle when the range grasses dry up. This may be done by planting tame grasses and clovers on land suited to their liking.

Cattle ranches of the intermountain country are usually located out and away from farming centers. Their crop land generally consists of a combination of sloping meadows with considerable grade and flat lands along stream systems. Native grasses, timothy, and red top predominate on most of these areas. A large part of these lands are not capable of producing high quality late summer and fall pasture without the installation of extensive and costly irrigation and drainage systems. However, a very substantial percentage of these lands are capable of producing late summer and fall pastures by re-vamping the irrigation system at relatively low cost and planting tame grasses and clovers as routine land rehabilitation proceeds.

The Nevada agricultural experiment station findings indicate that grass and hay yields can be increased from 50 to 100 per cent on favorably located areas of good soil with adequate late irriga-

tion water by getting the water supply under control and laying out ditches on grade. Best results were obtained when head ditches were laid out on a grade of  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch per rod and cross laterals at  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch per rod. When less than these grades were used, ditches and laterals caused trouble by filling and overflowing, especially a couple of years after installation when ditch banks were well settled. These grass and hay yield increases were made in favorable areas on lands newly seeded to tame grasses and clovers as well as on old meadows. On old meadows, merely revamping the irrigation system caused the tame grass species to thicken up and take the place of low-yielding wild grasses.

The conversion of favorably located areas, such as are described above, from wild grasses to tame grasses and clovers produces an abundance of either hay and aftermath or irrigated pasture and thus provides green forage for late summer and early fall, which may be used to lengthen the gaining period for the beef turn-off. When selling from green pastures, however, stockmen find it advisable to harden the cattle off for about ten days on hay before delivery time. The advantage of this conversion of forage, whenever practical, is that it makes possible a longer and greater gain from grass, which is the most inexpensive way to put weight on cattle.

Another way to lengthen the gaining period on grass is to have all, or as many calves as possible, come in the early spring. Therefore, wherever practical, seasonal breeding should be practiced to bring the calves between March 1 and June 30 of each year and, if possible, during the months of March, April, and May.

Cows must be bred between June 1 and August 30 of each year to effect calving during the period March 1 to June 1. The Nevada experiment station's findings under northeastern Nevada climatic conditions indicate that steer calves born during March, April, and May developed in thrifty condition on the range and, fed the amount of good tame hay and clover that they will clean up without waste during the winter months, may be held on the ranch one winter and sold the next fall. Under those conditions they average about seventeen months of age, weigh from 700 to 750 pounds (depending on ranch set-ups) and average approximately 725 pounds.

These findings also show that when steer calves are born throughout the year, except during November, December, and January, a substantial percentage of them must be carried two winters

**PRODUCER** readers will feel that sportsmen, too, ought to read Mr. Moir's article. They have. The article has already appeared in "Outdoor Life," a widely circulated sportsmen's magazine. Mr. Moir, forty-nine, educated at University of Montana, spent four years in the livestock business in the Rocky Mountain states before joining the Forest Service in 1918. He has served as ranger, supervisor, regional range inspector, and finally as senior forester, and has been stationed in Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, Colorado, South Dakota, and Utah. He was for several years a director of the Washington State Sports Council, and is now a director of the Colorado division of Izaak Walton League.—Ed.

on the ranch, even though fed on a moderately good stock herd ration of meadow hay, before they make satisfactory selling weights. Under the latter conditions the steers average about twenty-seven months of age at selling time and weigh approximately 875 pounds. Even though these steers are practically a year older, they only average 150 pounds heavier than the younger animals. This is because of the loss of weight during the winter by carrying steers over for sale at mature ages.

Nevada experiment station data indicate that, with a 70 per cent calf crop and a 2 per cent death loss, with calves born and cared for as explained above and carried by the rancher for two summers and one winter, the procedure effects an increase of 10 per cent in the total beef turn-off above that obtained when the breeding season is practically yearlong. In the latter case a substantial number of late calves have to be carried on the ranch two summers and two winters before selling time. The practice suggested may be adopted by individual ranchers who have good control of their ranch and range operation. It also appears adaptable to cattle ranch associations where the necessary control of ranch and range operation can be worked out by group action, which, of course, is more difficult than by individual action.

The significance of this practice is important when it is realized that set-ups that can perfect the above ranch and range control can increase their beef turn-off 10 per cent at no extra cost except that involved in providing 6 per cent more bulls than are commonly supplied, which cost is insignificant compared with the benefits derived. The additional bulls are required on set-ups where the rancher finds it advisable to run the same number of cattle that he formerly operated to maintain land and livestock balance, in which case more bulls are needed for the breeding cows that are carried in place of two-year-old steers. Under this suggested production and selling policy, in order to run the same number of cattle, the herd is made up of a larger percentage of breeding cows than when older steers are sold.

In making the change, where ranchers raise their own replacement breeding cows, the program will not get into its full stride of most efficient production until after the first year or two. The year initiated, however, it will greatly increase the tonnage of beef turned off, since two crops of steers are marketed in one year and thereafter seventeen- or eighteen-month-old steers are sold annually.

The suggested practices cited deserve the serious attention of stockmen with a view of adopting them wherever practical. They are timely and will further the nation's marketing plan and war effort. Stockmen who have made the change and are making it are to be

commended. The initiation of these practices not only puts a greater beef tonnage on the market for our war effort but also increases the efficiency of the cattle outfit, since the suggestions consist of changes which may be made along with routine work at little or no added cost. In other words, the production of 10 per cent more beef for practically the same cost in effect increases production efficiency 10 per cent. Accordingly, wherever these suggested changes are practical, their initiation not only furthers the war effort but also steps up the efficiency of the plant and fortifies the cowman for the post-war period.

(Mr. Brennan is in the department of range management of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Elko, Nevada.—EDITOR.)

## NEED MEAT IN DIET

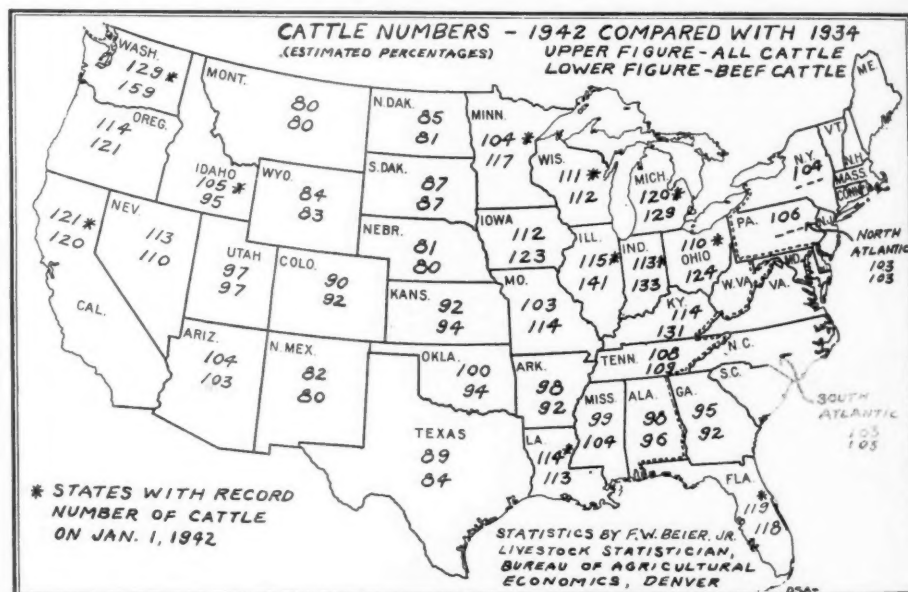
**AN OPEN LETTER BY DR. HENRY C. SHERMAN**, department of chemistry at Columbia University, suggesting that we "live more largely on fruit, vegetables, and milk," is answered in a letter addressed to Dr. Sherman by F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National Live Stock Association:

"I have before me a copy of the open letter on the use of food which you put out some little time ago in which you suggest that each of us can help win the

war by keeping things going in the right direction and that one of the ways to do this is to shift our food habits so as 'to live more largely on fruit, vegetables, and milk.' It is my understanding that you solicit comments on your letter.

"Although I understand you are assistant to the chairman of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, it does not strike me that the letter is in line with the effort which is being made by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard to increase our staple food supplies, not only for the purpose of insuring an ample supply for the civilian population, with its enlarged demands due to the pressure of war work, but also for supplying our army and our allies. With the single exception of milk, which is on the program for expanded production and which you include in your list, your program seems to be quite divergent from that of the secretary. Of course people are being asked to expand garden production for their own use, but not particularly with the idea of increasing consumption of those products but instead to relieve pressure on the canners who are endeavoring to meet the heavy demands placed upon them by the war.

"Neither is your suggestion in line with the policy of the War Department, because, according to the information we have received, the War Department has expanded considerably the portion of meat in the diet of the American soldier.





Apparently they are working on the theory that our soldiers have a little too much to do in the way of getting ready for the war to spend as much time in the mess hall as would be required if their diet did not have anything more substantial than the things you mention.

"I realize the strength of your argument that milch cows are the most efficient of all farm stock in converting animal feeding stuffs into human food; but milch cows have not got anything else to do than eat grass all day long.

"You may have seen the recent release of the Department of Agriculture showing that we have in this country today the largest number of cattle and the largest number of sheep ever recorded. The hog census is not the largest, although fairly well up in line; but the number of brood sows in relation to the total is very heavy, and it is expected that the pig crop and the slaughter in 1942 both will set an all-time record.

"Under these conditions it seems to me that you are rendering a disservice to the country by putting out material which completely ignores meat as the mainstay of the American diet. During the last World War, tremendous and lasting damage was done our industry by 'meatless days' and by unnecessary emphasis on conserving food for the soldiers. There is not any point in unduly conserving food if bottoms are not available to move it to the people who need it. Last year our per capita consumption of meat was the largest in some thirty-odd years. It is indicated that this year we will have available at least enough meat to provide approximately the same—possibly a little greater—per capita consumption as last year and still supply our army and our allies with more meat than we did last year.

"Ill-balanced statements in a time of great emergency are just as bad as ill-balanced diets. Therefore, it is a bit disheartening for the livestock producers, who are endeavoring to comply with the request of the secretary of agriculture for increased production and marketing of meat, to see statements of the kind you are putting out when we know that the great bulk of the meat produced must be eaten by the civilian population."

#### FARM INCOME IN 1941

Total cash farm income from marketings and government payments was \$11,600,000,000 in 1941. This compares with \$9,100,000,000 in 1940 and is the largest total since 1920 when income aggregated \$12,600,000,000. Of the indicated total for 1941, \$11,000,000,000 was from farm marketings and \$600,000,000 from government payments. Income from cattle and calves was \$1,750,000,000 in 1941, compared with \$1,380,170,000 in 1940; hogs, \$1,300,000,000 in 1941 and \$820,802,000 in 1940; sheep and lambs, \$225,000,000 in 1941 and \$189,402,000 in 1940; wool, \$143,000,000 in 1941 and \$110,058,000 in 1940.

# Report on Traffic and Transportation Matters

By Calvin L. and Chas. E. Blaine, Traffic Counsel

## THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE

Commission in its decision of March 2 in *Ex Parte No. 148* authorized increase of 3 per cent in the line-haul rates on animals and products and certain basic or raw products of agriculture, and 6 per cent in all other rates and charges, including minimum rates, minimum charges, absorptions, and charges for assessorial and special services, with the exception of certain products of mines.

The increases authorized are temporary in nature and unless sooner modified or terminated expire six months after the termination of the present war. The commission stated that the record will be held open for the purpose of giving consideration to any necessary readjustments or corrections which the circumstances may warrant, if brought to attention of the commission in the manner prescribed by its rules of practice; moreover, that the commission will give any possible aid to the informal adjustment of any matters arising thereunder, if its aid is deemed helpful.

In the United States during 1940, the last full year for which data are available, the rail lines alone collected \$56,282,721 for the line-haul charges on edible livestock, \$5,009,343 for the transportation of wool, and \$82,577,747 for the transportation of other animal products, or an aggregate of \$138,860,468 for the transportation of edible livestock and its products.

Hearing in this proceeding before representatives of the federal commission and a committee of state commissions consisting of Commissioners McConaughy, of Ohio; Eichhorn, of Indiana; Darby, of South Carolina; Jourolmon, Jr., of Tennessee; Murphy, of South Dakota; Keshlear, of Iowa; Betts, of Arizona; and Riley, of California, was held in St. Louis, Missouri, beginning on January 5 and ending January 9, and the case submitted upon oral argument on January 14, 1942. The American National Live Stock Association, the National Wool Growers' Association, the several Texas livestock organizations, and the National Live Stock Marketing Association, represented by Chas. A. Stewart, Lee J. Quasey, and Chas. E. Blaine, jointly presented documentary and other evidence and oral argument. They contended, among other things, that the present rates are too high and have forced the diversion of traffic from the railroads, and consequently any increase therein will stimulate the greater use of trucks; moreover, that the livestock traffic is now bearing an excessive proportion of the total transportation burden.

The secretary of agriculture and the states regulatory commissions of Oregon, Washington, Iowa, Wyoming, Utah, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee took the position that no increase should be allowed in the rates on livestock and its products or agricultural products.

Tariffs naming the authorized increases became effective March 18.

Similar proceedings were had before the various state regulatory bodies respecting intrastate traffic. However, decisions have not been rendered by many of such authorities.

## Ordering and Furnishing Cars For Livestock Loading

Service Order No. 71, promulgated by the Interstate Commerce Commission March 6, respecting the ordering and furnishing of cars for livestock loading, to become effective April 1, 1942:

1. Suspends the operation of tariff provisions and car service rules under which the rail lines now furnish follow-lot or trailer cars.

2. And provides that where a rail carrier is unable to furnish the car or cars of the type and size ordered it may furnish two or more single-deck cars for a double-deck car or cars ordered; two or more smaller cars for one or more larger car or cars ordered; and a larger car for a smaller car ordered; and

3. That at any station or terminal served by more than one railroad, or by a terminal or switching line, all livestock cars shall be available without regard to the ownership as between the carriers, so that, where a livestock car of a specified type or size is ordered from one carrier and such carrier is unable to furnish a car of the type or size ordered, a greater number of cars may not be furnished by such carrier in lieu of the car or cars ordered, if a car or cars of the type or size ordered are available on the tracks or in the storage yards or any other carrier at such station or terminal.

Service Order No. 71 is less severe than Service Order No. 68, which was issued by the commission February 6 and became effective on all traffic except livestock on February 15, 1942, and which would have become effective on livestock traffic March 15 but was canceled on March 6 in so far as it applied to livestock.

Both of these orders were grounded on the premise that, due to the existing state of war, an emergency exists which, in the opinion of the commission, re-

quires immediate action to prevent shortage of railroad equipment and congestion of traffic, and, further, that certain provisions contained in the carriers' tariffs in respect to the furnishing of cars result in wasteful car service in interstate and foreign commerce and are, therefore, detrimental to the public interest and prosecution of the war.

The American National Live Stock Association and the National Wool Growers' Association filed petition dated February 7, 1942, with the commission for clarification and modification of Service Order No. 68 with respect to livestock and wool traffic. Like petitions were subsequently filed by other livestock interests. Upon request of Commissioner J. M. Johnson, conference was had in his office at Washington, D. C., February 16, 1942. Chas. A. Stewart represented the associations above named as well as the Texas Livestock organizations at that conference, and later filed statement detailing the effect of said order.

We urge the livestock producers and shippers to give careful consideration to the number and size of cars required safely to transport their livestock and then to place written car orders accordingly. In other words, do not order a 40-foot car when a 36-foot car will suffice, or vice versa. Moreover, do not order a greater number of cars than actually required to transport the shipment.

Service Order No. 71, with the exception of the follow-lot or trailer car rule, fully protects the rights and interests of the livestock producers. However, such is not the case respecting Service Order No. 68, which governs the wool traffic, but the commission has made certain suggestions to the carriers which will no doubt be written into the tariffs in the near future.

In our last annual report with respect to violations of the transportation laws, we stated that the investigations, prosecutions, and heavy fines referred to in our previous reports, continued in increasing numbers during the year 1941, but that no producer so far as we were

informed had violated the transportation laws. We there urged that the producers keep their records clear by strictly complying with the laws, including the tariffs of the several transportation agencies on file with the commission, and stated:

"Evasion and subterfuge on the part of shippers results in added or onerous restrictions being written into the governing tariffs. Thus, all shippers are penalized because of the wrong acts of a few."

With respect to this subject, the Interstate Commerce Commission in its fifty-fifth annual report, beginning at page 78, stated:

"Our staff of attorneys and special agents in this bureau directed and conducted during the year more than 150 investigations of alleged violations of part I of the Interstate Commerce Act and related statutes. They also directed and conducted several investigations of alleged violations of part III of the act, the provisions of which became effective during the year. . . ."

(After discussing investigations which reveal false or fraudulent claims, the commission, at page 79, further stated:)

"Other means of depleting railroad revenues, to which certain of the carriers were parties, were found to exist at numerous points throughout the country in connection with the ordering and furnishing of cars for transportation. Shippers who desired and were furnished cars of one length obtained transportation of shipments loaded therein at freight charges which were lower than those lawfully applicable by resorting to the subterfuge of inserting on bills of lading a false notation to the effect that a shorter car than that furnished was ordered, and that the longer car was furnished for carrier's convenience. The railroads executed such bills of lading notwithstanding the fact that they were in a position to supply the shorter cars if the shippers actually had ordered that equipment, and they computed and collected freight charges on the basis of the minimum weight provided by tariff for shipments transported in the shorter car represented as having been ordered, instead of on the basis of the minimum weight applicable for shipments transported in the longer car actually ordered and furnished. Based on this practice, thirty-five prosecutions for granting and accepting concessions on shipments of cotton linters were instituted in three different judicial districts. Railroads were named as defendants in sixteen of these instances and shippers in nineteen instances. Fines aggregating \$96,200 were imposed and paid upon pleas of guilty of all defendants. Prosecutions brought in another district against three railroad defendants for the granting of similar concessions on shipments of farm implements resulted in pleas of guilty and the imposition and payment of fines totaling \$9,000.

"In other instances, where the ship-

pers actually desired and obtained two cars for the loading of shipments, they defeated the lawful freight charges by resorting to the practice of inserting on bills of lading, which were executed by the carriers, a false notation indicating that one long car had been ordered and that two shorter cars were furnished for carrier's convenience, when, in fact, the carriers had available an adequate supply of the longer cars, and in certain instances were required to move such equipment from the shippers' plants to make room for the shorter cars. Instead of imposing freight charges applicable on the basis of the minimum weights published for the two cars furnished, the carriers collected charges at the minimum weight applicable in connection with the longer car which was represented to have been ordered by the shippers. Eight indictments based on this practice were returned during the year against carriers and shippers, and, upon pleas of *nolo contendere* by all of the defendants, fines aggregating \$49,000 were imposed and paid. The offenses charged in these indictments were the granting and the receiving of concessions by the carriers and shippers, respectively, and the making by the carriers of false entries in their waybills.

"In still another instance, false notations on livestock contracts concerning the type of equipment ordered were used by railroads as a foundation for collection of less than the lawful charges. A shipper who desired two single-deck cars for the loading of his shipments, and who had no facilities for the loading of double-deck cars, nevertheless obtained transportation at the lower rates applicable when shipments were transported in double-deck cars, on the premise, which the carrier knew to be false, that two single-deck cars had been furnished for carrier's convenience in lieu of a double-deck car ordered. Pleas of guilty were entered to information filed against a carrier and a shipper for engaging in this practice, and fines totaling \$6,000 were imposed and paid. . . .

"Another scheme resorted to by shippers for defeating published charges is the furnishing of false reports of weights. One shipper of packing-house products which was found to have engaged in this practice extensively was fined \$10,000 after entering a plea of guilty to an information filed against it."

We are of the opinion that Service Orders Nos. 68 and 71 were prompted, in part at least, by the subterfuge and abuses above pointed out by the commission.

#### Unloading Livestock at North Pacific Coast Points

The commission in its order of February 24, in *I. & S. Docket No. 5109*, suspended until September 28, 1942, the increased charges for unloading livestock at destination, published by the rail lines in the north Pacific coast territory to become effective February 28,



"Look at that Mrs. Smythe—if that instructor weren't so handsome, she'd know perfectly well where that spark plug belongs!"





# WHAT'S A STEER WORTH?

SOME people say a steer is worth what it costs to produce, plus a profit—but every business man, whether he be a farmer or a merchant, knows that anything is worth only what somebody will pay for it and its cost is a minor factor.

Do the producers of steers, hogs, and sheep get the full value of their animals when they sell them at the nation's market places? The answer to that question depends on these factors:

- (1) How much the consuming public is willing to pay for the products which are made from the meat animal.
- (2) What portion of the consumer's dollar goes to the producer?
- (3) Is the work of converting live animals into meat and by-products performed efficiently?
- (4) How much profit does the packer get?

Approximately 75% of what consumers pay for meat and by-products goes back to the producers of livestock.

The efficiency of the packing industry is generally recognized and few industries are able to maintain themselves on as small a portion of their total income as is the packing industry.

Packers' profits over a long period of years have averaged less than two cents per dollar of sales and less than 6% on capital invested in plants, equipment, etc.

The smallness of packers' profits and the large portion of the total revenue which goes back to the producers are positive evidence that natural laws of competition and good business management are operating to make a steer net its producer all that the public says it is worth.



This is Armour and Company's Diamond Jubilee Year. We have been in business three-quarters of a century and only firms which render useful service to the public, which are well

managed, and which conform to business ethics and to the laws of the land are able to remain in business and expand with the country over such a long period of time.



## ARMOUR and COMPANY

and assigned the proceeding for hearing April 2, 1942, at Boise, Idaho. Thereafter, upon our request, the interested rail lines have agreed to withdraw the suspended schedules without prejudice to subsequent action that they may decide to take, with notice to all concerned prior to any future publication. Upon such withdrawal the commission will dismiss the proceeding, thus avoiding further expense to all concerned.

The Great Northern and Northern Pacific in their individual line's tariffs published like provisions to become effective March 20, 1942. Petitions for suspension have been filed with the commission. Said lines will no doubt voluntarily withdraw such schedules.

The schedules concerned named increased charges ranging from \$3.60 for single-deck car of sheep and goats to \$7.20 for cattle and horses in single-deck cars, also hogs in double-deck cars, for unloading at destination. In justification of such charges the rail lines stated that infrequently they were compelled to unload livestock at destination because of non-appearance or default of the consignees or their agents.

As the increased charges were for application on interstate and Washington, Oregon, and Idaho intrastate traffic, the American National Live Stock Association, and the National Wool Growers' Association, and others filed petitions for suspension thereof with the federal and state authorities. The federal commission and the Public Utilities Commission of Idaho suspended the schedules, whereupon the rail lines advised the Washington and Oregon regulatory bodies they were voluntarily postponing the effective date on intrastate traffic pending determination by the federal commission.

#### **I. & S. Docket No. 5087, Transit Livestock in Western District**

This proceeding grew out of schedules of the western rail lines canceling the sale-in-transit privilege on stocker and feeder livestock at numerous points in the Western District, also in making said privilege at Chicago not applicable on traffic destined east of the Indiana-Illinois state line. Hearing was held March 6, 1942, at Denver. Briefs are due April 6, 1942.

#### **URGES CO-OPERATION**

Following his appearance in Washington, D. C., for the American National Live Stock Association and other groups in the matter of ICC Service Order No. 68, now superseded by Order No. 71, relating to use of freight cars, Charles A. Stewart said that he had been asked to call to the attention of the livestock industry the matter of co-operation in eliminating abuse and wasteful transportation in the use of stock cars. He urged stockmen to—

Use utmost care in determining number of cars required and see that all cars are fully loaded—as nearly as possible to do so.

Determine definitely before placing car order the type of car needed; that is, 36-foot, 40-foot, single-deck, or double-deck.

Be definite about loading date and time, and have livestock ready to go.

Not under any circumstances order 36-foot cars with any agreement or understanding that 40-foot cars will be furnished; or double-deck cars with the understanding that single-deck cars will be furnished. To do so is a violation of law, subjecting both the shipper and railroad to heavy penalties.

## **NEW MEXICO MEET DRAWS LARGE CROWD**

**O**VER A THOUSAND INDIVIDUALS registered at the twenty-eighth annual convention of the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association at Albuquerque, March 6-7, representing almost twice the attendance last year.

Tom Clayton, of Separ, was chosen to head the association for his second term. Vice-presidents re-elected were J. L. Black, El Paso; B. A. Christmas, Las Cruces; Eugene G. Hayward, Cimarron; and L. B. Merchant, Capitan. H. H. Henning was renamed secretary.

Outstanding among the speakers was Frank S. Boice, Sonoita, Arizona, president of the American National Live Stock Association. He said that the cattlemen's job in the war effort is to produce meat, but he urged his hearers to sell marketable animals "now when we need it." He called attention to the danger in exposing cattle to foot-and-mouth disease during the present effort to furnish needed meat. Importations of the disease would be "comparable to a major military disaster."

Other convention speakers included Farrington R. Carpenter, director of the department of revenue, Denver, Colorado; D. A. Bryce, of the FBI, El Paso; Charlie Madrid, Las Cruces; R. C. Pollock, general manager, National Live Stock and Meat Board, Chicago; Howard J. Gramlich, secretary, American Short-horn Breeders' Association; Clyde Tingley, mayor of Albuquerque; Capt. Burton C. Mossman, Roswell; Governor John E. Miles, Santa Fe; George A. Godfrey, Animas; and Joseph Bursey, Santa Fe, who showed motion pictures on ranch life in New Mexico.

Highlights of a trip to South America were given by Harry E. Terrell, Des Moines, Iowa. He told of the danger of shipments of dressed meats from South America.

#### **Resolutions**

Resolutions passed: Recommended adoption of state constitution changes proposed in SJR 8 and 10, and change to a new method of issuing grazing leases on a per head or carrying capacity basis.

Asked that the board of education be selected on a staggered term basis.

Petitioned the secretary of agriculture

and secretary of the interior to announce "that a policy will be instituted to protect the legalized (federal land) user who reduces his herd below the proper carrying capacity as a result of compliance with war demands for marketing."

#### **Asks Consideration in Draft**

Asked that the selective service boards give careful consideration in drafting of men to the needs of the livestock industry of New Mexico.

Asked the public health service to establish quarantines in certain counties on all carnivorous animals and that the Fish and Wildlife Service and state game department and law enforcement officers co-operate in controlling predatory and domestic animals to prevent spread of rabies.

Reaffirmed request that transfer of grazing rights be made without cuts, but, if cuts are necessary, that they be made proportionately on all users of the area to be reduced "and not be inflicted upon individuals who desire to transfer;" that the transfer of grazing rights on national forests be made only with the transfer of the base property; and that the Johnson Bill, S.1030, be passed.

Reaffirmed opposition to modification of the sanitary ban applying on countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists, and pointed out to Secretary Wickard the serious risk that would be involved by raising the embargo from Tierra del Fuego.

Urged the OPM to give greater consideration to rancher needs in trucks, tires, machinery, and equipment necessary in farm and ranch operations.

Reiterated opposition to acquisition of privately owned land by the government, except where needed for military purposes.

Urged that title to certain grazing lands now under complicated land management of various agencies be transferred to the Department of Interior and administered under the Taylor Grazing Act.

Commended calfhood vaccination and favored uncontrolled sale of biologicals.

Demanded that the President and Congress act to end all strikes which interfere with the war effort.

Urged upon Secretary of Agriculture Wickard that plentiful feed grains be made available at fair prices to producers and feeders; that any marked increase in price of grains will hamper movement of cattle to feeding pens; and that surplus feed grains for livestock feeding be sold at not below 85 per cent of parity under which arrangement the AAA payments insure parity to grain producers. The resolution favored the secretary's beef marketing goal.

Recommended cessation of appropriation for range conservation practices and that Congress "search diligently and guard cautiously all appropriations for the many agencies, so as to insure savings in WPA, NYA, AAA, CCC, SCS, and abolish the Rio Grande Board."



## REPORT OF TEXAS CATTLEMEN'S MEETING

CLAUDE K. McCAN, VICTORIA, Texas, was elected by members of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association at its convention in El Paso March 10-12 to head the association for the coming year. Chosen as first vice-president was Holman Cartwright, Dinero; second vice-president, C. E. Weymouth, Amarillo.

Among the resolutions passed was one tendering to the government "unqualified support to accomplish victory;" and asking that "all other industries and all other Americans join with us in our willingness to surrender all subsidies from the government in order to present to our enemies an unbroken, solidified front of Americans willing jointly to make sacrifices in order to win a common victory and save and revitalize democracy."

The resolution mentioned the government subsidization of various industries and expenditure of considerable money by the government, "though the benefits derived therefrom are considerable;" called attention to strikes and the frequent refusal to abide by decisions of the Labor Relations Board; stated that the forty-hour week was not framed to apply to war emergency conditions; and deplored "shocking exhibitions of selfishness impeding development of the war program."

Another resolution asked that there be no relaxation against the importation of fresh meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists.

Speakers at the meeting included President Jay Taylor, Amarillo; Vice-President J. L. Black, El Paso; Frank S. Boice, Sonoita, Arizona, president of the American National Live Stock Association; T. E. Myers, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, El Paso; Joe G. Montague, attorney for the association; E. J. Kyle, dean of the School of Agriculture, College Station, Texas; H. R. Davison, vice-president of the American Meat Institute, Chicago.

Jay Taylor, outgoing president of the association, in his parting address urged that close attention be paid by the draft boards to needs of the livestock industry—that a broader deferment be granted to key men on Texas ranches. "These cowboys and foremen are fully as important in the cattle industry as the foremen in the refineries producing octane gasoline," Mr. Taylor said, "and we can't produce cowboys in thirty days."

Henry Bell, in his secretary's report, said that "the association's force of inspectors, numbering thirty-one men, has been kept constantly on the move in investigating cattle losses. We are keenly interested in the Kleberg brand inspection bill which we believe would be of great assistance to us in inspecting cattle, preventing thefts, and apprehending thieves who bring cattle into the markets." The bill has been passed by the

House and is pending before a committee in the Senate.

The membership of the Texas association has been increased 82 per cent in the last five years, it was reported. Officials admitted 211 new members at the meeting, and the organization now boasts of a membership of nearly 4,000 men, representing 1,000,000 head of livestock.

## REPORT OF KANSAS CATTLEMEN'S MEETING

SEVERAL HUNDRED CATTLEMEN gathered at the twenty-ninth annual convention of the Kansas Live Stock Association at that organization's meeting in Wichita on March 3-5.

Edward C. Robbins, Belvidere, was elected president, succeeding Emil C. Kielhorn, Cambridge. James Tomson, Wakarusa, was chosen vice-president. Will J. Miller, Topeka, continues in the capacity of secretary-treasurer.

An outstanding speaker at the meeting was Dr. William N. Jardine, former secretary of agriculture and now president of the University of Wichita. Dr. Jardine expressed optimism in the outlook for the livestock industry but said he could remember the crash in cattle prices from a high of \$25.25 to around \$6 or \$7. He said that farmers and livestock breeders have two obligations to fulfill: "First, to do currently what Uncle Sam wants us to do in increasing the production of meats and farm products; and, second, to prepare ourselves for the anti-climax that may come after the war is over."

A talk on the importance of meat in the national nutrition program was given by Miss Anna E. Boller, of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. A motion picture entitled "There Is Gold in Meat," was presented by H. R. Davison, vice-president of the American Meat Institute, Chicago.

Industrial possibilities existing in the state and the importance of developing them was discussed by Dr. H. H. King, head of the chemistry department of Kansas State College.

Major Jesse H. White, of the Quartermaster Corps, spoke on "Meat in the Army" and told how the American soldiers are supplied. Harry E. Terrell, Des Moines, Iowa, gave highlights of a recent trip to South America, showing danger in importations of dressed or frozen meat from that source. Among other speakers were Mrs. T. T. Riordan, Solomon, Kansas; and Clarence E. Rippen, market broadcaster, St. Joseph.

Resolutions passed recommended that dairy and breeding cattle six months old or over brought into the state (except range or semi-range cattle and cattle for immediate slaughter) be accompanied by a Bang's disease test certificate. The resolution also recommended that cattle in the category above mentioned, offered for sale at community sales in the state, be accom-

panied by a Bang's disease test official certificate.

Any violation or evasion of the sanitary regulations applying to imports of meat was opposed.

It was recommended that "If it becomes necessary to put a ceiling on agricultural products, a ceiling also be put on wages."

The national draft board was urged to clarify its instructions to local boards in regard to deferment of livestock workers.

Congress was asked to modify or eliminate the wages-and-hour law and to allow a longer work week in order to prevent danger of inflation and hampering shortage of labor.

## ASSOCIATION NOTES

### TEXAS PANHANDLE ASSOCIATION

Members of the Panhandle Livestock Association meeting at Amarillo, Texas, March 10, re-elected all association officers. They are: Jack Roach, president; Jim Weymouth and John Fain, vice-presidents, and Grover Hill, secretary. Production of beef to meet wartime demands was pledged by the cattlemen. Resolutions asked that measures be taken to guard the health of the state's livestock; that draft boards give consideration to deferment for those in active work with livestock; that the Senate be petitioned to pass the Kleberg brand inspection bill; and that greater consideration be given to the handling of priorities on ranch machinery. Another resolution protested against the lifting of the embargo on cattle importation from countries where foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist.

### OREGON GROUPS COMBINE

Officers of the Ironside Cattle Association—recently created through the combining of the South Burnt River group and the Ironside Cattle and Horse Association in eastern Oregon—are: A. R. Van Buren, Ironside, president; H. R. Walker, Unity, vice-president; H. B. Murray, Unity, secretary-treasurer; and John Hardman, Unity, and Earl Lofton, Ironside, advisory board. The North Burnt River Cattle Association held its annual meeting February 10, electing the following officers: Albert J. Morgan, president; Tom C. Dearing, vice-president; Frank Owen, secretary-treasurer, all of Unity.

### BROCK ATTENDS MEETINGS

J. Elmer Brock, former president of the American National Live Stock Association, reports as follows on several meetings attended in the interest of the livestock industry:

"My recent attendance at the National Farm Institute February 20-21, at Des Moines, gave me an entirely new slant on the attitude of another section of our

country. I participated in this program on a panel discussion under the title of "World Trade After the War." This discussion immediately led into the question of importations of South American meat. It was clearly evident that several others on the panel held viewpoints contrary to the best interest of the livestock industry. I believe I presented our viewpoints fairly and forcefully. Since no resolutions are adopted in this meeting, nothing was to be gained by winning an argument.

"The meeting was packed with administration officials or men from the academic field. There were several foreign representatives on the program. Remarks were of course all highly internationalistic. As a matter of fact, internationalism seems to be in the forefront now since every country in the world, except the United States, has something to gain from that policy. Unless there is a change in the trend of thought along this line, we are, in my opinion, going to awaken with a very bad international headache when this war is over.

"I had two meetings with Corn Belt cattle feeders. Both were heavily attended. Much is to be done in gaining a better understanding with the Corn Belt feeders. They do not realize the extent to which some matters affecting us are reflected to them—cattle production costs, etc. Their present concern seems to be mainly that they want to buy our cattle more cheaply. Few of them seem to have

explored the field of common interest. I believe it would be much to our advantage if we could get a few representatives from the Corn Belt into our national conventions and let them hear our discussions. We should have at least one feeder on our program."

#### GILPIN-JEFFERSON MEETING

The Gilpin-Jefferson Live Stock Association held its annual meeting in Central City, Colorado, February 14. The officers elected were as follows: William Allgood, Golden, president; Fred Mitchell, Blackhawk, vice-president; K. L. Green, Golden, secretary-treasurer. The meeting was well attended in spite of the stormy weather and bad roads. Featured speaker was Mr. Schwann of the Forest Service.

#### NORTHERN ARIZONA MEETING

At the Northern Arizona Cattlemen's meeting in Holbrook early in February, John Jones was elected president and Jack Wallace, secretary. The three vice-presidents—Boss Chilson for Coconino County, C. D. McCauley for Navajo County, and Bill Spence for Apache County—were re-elected. Speakers at the meeting included Dave Creighton, county agent for Navajo County; O. C. Williams, state land commissioner; A. H. Randall, of the AAA; and Cy McCleve, Navajo County tire rationing agent.

#### SAN-PIMA ASSOCIATION

Joe M. King, Tucson, Arizona, was re-elected president of the San-Pima Cattlemen's Association February 7. David Jeffcott, Patagonia, was re-elected vice-president, and J. F. Weadock, Tucson, secretary. Frank Boice, newly elected president of the American National Live Stock Association, was the principal speaker at the meeting.

#### YAVAPAI ELECTS OFFICERS

The Yavapai Cattle Growers (Arizona) held their annual meeting on March 7. The following officers were elected: Earl Evans, president; John Thompson, first vice-president; Ross Perner, second vice-president; Bob Perkins and Al Favour, both of Prescott, secretary and treasurer, respectively. The next meeting is set for April 11, with the junior association taking charge.

#### COASTAL CATTLEMEN

George Bauer, Nome, Texas, was elected president of the Coastal Cattle Association at that organization's annual meeting held at Beaumont, Texas, recently. W. P. H. McFaddin, Jr., retiring president, was elected executive vice-president, W. R. Beaumier, Lufkin, and D. C. Kenley, Diboll, were elected to the board of directors. Joe F. Combs is secretary and Oscar Gallier is treasurer.

**ISN'T HE HANDSOME? THE BOSS SAYS THERE'S NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR US -- EVEN CUTTER BLACKLEGOL--**

One-shot  
**BLACKLEGOL**  
immunity  
at least 99.999%  
certain

Especially today -  
with beef prices up  
**DON'T RISK  
LOSSES!**

Handsome is as handsome does, as the saying goes—and Cutter Blacklegol has been doing handsomely. Of all the millions of calves vaccinated with Blacklegol only three losses proved upon our laboratory examination to have been due to blackleg, with one additional doubtful case.

No other vaccine, either for human or veterinary use, to our knowledge, equals this near-to-perfection record.

Only Blacklegol gives you a vaccine that is held in the tissues after injection, by aluminum hydroxide adsorption, so that the immunizing substances are released slowly into the animal's system as if repeated small doses were being given.

For real protection, use Cutter Blacklegol. 10¢ a dose; less in quantities.

**CUTTER Laboratories • Berkeley, Calif. • Since 1897**



## KITTITAS COUNTY MEETING

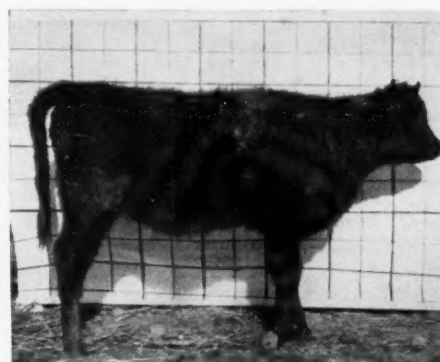
Eighty cattlemen attending the annual dinner meeting of the Kittitas County (Washington) Cattlemen's Association heard R. M. Turner, assistant director of the extension service at Pullman; Walter Tolman, extension specialist from Pullman; Alan Rogers; and Rufus Schnebly, president of the Washington Cattlemen's Association.

Mr. Turner said that beef should find strong demand in the intensified industrial and military activity on the Pacific coast, but advised the cattlemen not to go heavily in debt but rather to pay off debts, buy defense bonds, and be prepared for higher taxes. Mr. Rogers, named as the new president of the Kittitas organization, reviewed the itinerary of the AAA range program conference which met in Idaho last summer. Mr. Schnebly reported on the American National Live Stock Association convention in Salt Lake City last January. Mr. Tolman discussed a creep feeding experiment demonstrated by R. L. Rutter.

On a feed-lot tour sponsored by the association, the creep-fed calves on the Rutter ranch were an outstanding feature. The steers weighed over 300 pounds more than their sisters handled in the usual way. Six April and May steer calves, grain-fed since September 28, ate 1,130 pounds of grain each and weighed an average of 665 pounds February 5 while their six pasture- and hay-fed sisters of the same age weighed an



Top Holstein-Angus crossbred creep-fed steer weighed 665 pounds while his sister, below, of the same age, handled in the usual way, weighed 359 pounds.



average of 359 pounds. Packer buyers appraised the grain-fed steers at \$12.50 per cwt., and estimated their value would have been \$8 per cwt. if they had not been grain-fed. The greater weight of the steers and their extra value amount to \$54.40 per calf, a return of 4.8 cents per pound of grain fed. Mr. Rutter is developing a beef herd by breeding his Holstein cows to a purebred Angus bull. The calves are all black and usually hornless. He finds many people mistake the crossbred calves for straight Angus until they are about a year old.

## LAND POLICY COMMITTEE

A special committee of the public land policy committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce met in Denver, Colorado, February 27-28, to consider public land matters. The consensus of that committee, according to J. Elmer Brock, of Kaycee, Wyoming, one of its members, was "that propaganda among federal land management agencies had reached a point justifying a general policy statement as follows: That the right of American citizens to own land be reiterated; that the right of private agencies to develop the national resources of the country under proper state and federal statutory regulations be reiterated; that Congress reiterate the right of states to their water and other resources given them under their constitutions and acts of admission as states."

ABORTION?

ANTHRAX?

## WHAT ARE YOUR LIVESTOCK WORRIES?

BLACKLEG?

CALF SCOUR?

RED WATER?

SCREW-WORMS?

Today there are few diseases of cattle for which science has not found an answer. A pioneer in such research, Cutter Laboratories — the West's leading producer — originated many of the serums and vaccines now in general use. When you count on Cutter for help with your disease control problems, you can be sure you are getting the most up-to-date, scientific help.

VACCINATE NOW AGAINST ENCEPHALOMYELITIS (HORSE SLEEPING SICKNESS) WITH CUTTER CHICK VACCINE

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Whatever the trouble—if a vaccine or a serum will control it, Cutter makes it!



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The friendly Cutter Laboratories are still friendly, but for the first time since World War I the latchstring is no longer out.

Uncle Sam says that vital supplies of serums and vaccines for the armed forces must be protected. Hence, Cutter employs all wear identifying badges, and strangers are stopped at the gate until their identity is known.

You who are fighting on the food front have a right to know that when you buy Cutter Products, the company you patronize is doing its part, too. As it did throughout World War I.

If your local veterinarian or drug store cannot supply you, order direct from nearest Cutter branch . . .  
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With reference to the first point, Mr. Brock said that land management agencies have been urging that all land be placed under their jurisdiction and that occupants be given the status of tenants. "Senate Document 199 advocates that the federal government repossess 125,000,000 acres of land in private ownership, and the government in 1937-39 repossessed almost 30,000,000 acres of land in private use, exclusive of the army, navy, and minor agencies," Mr. Brock declared. He further explained that the water so vital to the arid West "is now being passed to federal control through court decrees declaring all streams, however small, navigable streams . . . clear to their sources in the snowbanks of the mountains."

By way of background to creation of the special public lands committee, Mr. Brock pointed out that "something over two years ago the national cattlemen's organization appeared before the Senate Committee on Public Lands and made allegations as to the administration of the public lands. As a result of this protest, S.R.241, by Senator McCarran, was passed, authorizing a Senate investigation of all agencies administering public lands. Hearings have already been held and others are scheduled. In April of 1940 I was made a member of the resolutions committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce. That committee met in Washington and, with the able support of Dr. Thompson of the School of Mines of Montana, passed a strong resolution criticizing the administration of public lands of the West. This resolution further provided that a special committee be appointed by the United States Chamber of Commerce to conduct an investigation and suggest remedial measures. The work of our committee is correlated with that of the McCarran committee."

## COMMENT ON PRICE CONTROL MEASURE

WHEN IN LATE JANUARY THE conference report on the price-control bill was being discussed in the Senate, Senator O'Mahoney, of Wyoming, made some observations on subsection 2(e) of the bill that are worthy of mention. His contention was that absence of control of wages and elementary costs going into farm production would lead to decreased production in the United States and purchase of commodities in foreign markets.

Senator O'Mahoney's argument was that "by reason of the failure to adopt the wage parity formula, the costs to the farmer rise, and the prices are limited, with the result that domestic production is curtailed. Then, when domestic production is curtailed, the price administrator would have no recourse except to resort to the power to buy, and he may buy foreign production, and when he buys it, by reason of this provision respecting the tariff [that nothing in the section is to be construed to modify the

Tariff Act of 1930] he buys it at the prices which the Congress thought would keep out foreign production. In other words, is there not the danger that we may upon the one hand stifle domestic production, and, upon the other, encourage the importation of agricultural commodities from other nations to take the places of the commodities production of which here has been cut down by operation of the law? . . .

"The bill gives the administrator the broadest possible power to buy agricultural commodities from foreign countries. We control the price at which he may resell them, surely; but he has the power to buy them. What I am pointing out to the Senate is that under this section it seems to me altogether clear that if the result of the operation of the price-control law, as it will be on the statute books if this report is adopted, is to hold the farm prices down at a level too close to the cost of production, so that the farmer is unable to operate at a profit, and therefore abandons production, we shall be confronted with the necessity of the exercise by the price administrator of the power here granted to purchase, in his discretion, foreign agricultural commodities which, by the operation of the law, our farmers are prevented from raising. . . .

"So we have a conference report which, in subsection 2(e), gives an administrator who does not understand the farm problem the power to fix ceilings upon farm commodities in a manner which threatens the production of farm commodities in this country, and which then will compel the country in self-defense to dig further into the Treasury in order to buy agricultural commodities from foreign nations—commodities which we ourselves might have been producing in this country. . . .

"I grant that the same subsection 2(e) recognizes that perhaps we may have to subsidize the farmer, because it says that the price administrator shall have authority to 'make subsidy payments to domestic producers of such commodity in such amounts and in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as he determines to be necessary.'

"Mr. President, has not the time come when we should recognize the importance of maintaining the agricultural industry as a self-supporting industry? Why should it be necessary for the conferees to submit a report which in its terms recognizes the imperfection of the proposed act by granting the price administrator authority to subsidize the production of agriculture? When are we going to realize that we cannot forever spend more money than we produce in commodities? When are we going to realize, if ever, that the government cannot continue to borrow for the purpose of keeping the economic system operating? The economic system cannot be conducted upon borrowing, for, when the government borrows, it merely creates a

debt for future generations to pay out of the production of the future. We could avoid the creation of the debt if only we had the will to stimulate production now.

"So, Mr. President, it seems to me that in subsection 2(e), which authorizes the importation of foods and the purchase of foods, and which places a limitation only upon the prices the price administrator shall pay and upon the price at which he may sell, and requires the price administrator to pay the tariff when he is buying the product, is only perpetuating the unsound conditions which are increasing the national debt and are destroying the capacity of the people of America to produce."

## CARE OF TIRES

Five simple rules for the proper care of rubber tires on tractors and other implements have been issued by The B. F. Goodrich Company: (1) Keep the proper air pressure in tires at all times. Both underinflation and overinflation are harmful. (2) Keep tractor under cover and jacked up when not in use over a long period of time. Check tire pressures before putting into service again. (3) Do not allow tires to rest in grease, oil, or barnyard acids, as all these shorten the life of rubber. (4) Inspect casings regularly for cuts, bruises, and other injuries. Have injuries repaired promptly before they cause tire failure. (5) Use care in operating, especially when on the highway.

## CALENDAR

### MARCH—

30—Western Nebraska Hereford Ass'n, Alliance.

### APRIL—

3—Northern Colorado Hereford Breeders' Sale, Greeley.

4—Utah Cattle and Horse Growers' Ass'n Convention, Salt Lake City.

15—Midwest Hereford Ass'n Sale, Holyoke, Colo.

### MAY—

1-2—Cattle and Horse Raisers' Ass'n of Oregon Convention, John Day.

2—University of Nebraska Feeders' Day, North Platte.

8-9—Idaho Cattlemen's Ass'n Convention, Boise.

15-16—Washington Cattlemen's Ass'n Convention, Okanogan.

27-29—Montana Stock Growers' Ass'n Convention, Missoula.

### JUNE—

2-4—Wyoming Stock Growers' Ass'n Convention, Gillette.

4-6—Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Ass'n Convention, Steamboat Springs.

8-10—South Dakota Stock Growers' Ass'n Convention, Belle Fourche.

11-13—Nebraska Stock Growers' Ass'n Convention, Lexington.

12-13—North Dakota Stockmen's Ass'n Convention, Fargo.



# AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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## MEAT PRICE CEILINGS

THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT by the OPA that a temporary freeze order had been issued prohibiting the sale of wholesale pork cuts above the highest price charged during the five-day period March 3 to March 7 has been accepted by the livestock industry with scarcely a ripple of excitement. Most of the present livestock producers remember all too well the headache which followed the high prices which prevailed during and immediately following the close of World War No. 1. They do not wish to see a repetition of that situation at the close of this war, and they realize that livestock numbers today are so great that further expansion induced by high prices would almost certainly set the stage for a duplication of just such a performance.

Of course, price ceilings are established primarily in the interest of the consumer and, so it is said, to prevent rising price spirals with their inflationary consequences. That the producer likewise has a direct interest has already been shown. It must be recognized, however, that in connection with protecting the interest of both the consumer and the producer, although the objectives are somewhat different, care must be taken that price ceilings are established on a basis that will at least encourage the needed production of meat not only for ourselves for the duration of the war but for the extensive and growing lend-lease operations with our allies. Therefore, to keep the matter in proper perspective the cost of feed necessary to produce pork and beef becomes a most important factor and makes it impractical arbitrarily to es-

tablish a ceiling for the protection of the consumer without ascertaining whether such price will permit the production of the product in question on the scale desired.

In this connection the controversy that has been raging in Congress as to the sale of surplus commodities becomes immediately of grave concern. If the secretary of agriculture is to be prevented from selling corn and wheat (for feed) below full parity levels, then the cost of making pork and beef will be increased accordingly. In the case of pork it is not quite so serious, because the bulk of the hogs are produced on farms in the Corn Belt which raise a large share of their own feed. To whatever extent a corn-hog farmer is benefited by the advance in the price of corn which might follow legislation restricting the sale of government-owned stocks he will lose in proportion by a lesser profit when he comes to sell his hogs under a fixed price ceiling.

But in the case of cattle feeding the situation is considerably more varied. In most cases it is at least a two-way operation, and in many cases a three-way one. The bulk of the feeder cattle are produced in the territory west of the Missouri River. Large numbers of them are fed in the territory east of the Missouri River—oftentimes in concentrated areas where only a small proportion of the required feed is grown by the operator of the feed-lot. Any price ceiling which may be established upon beef, therefore, must give due consideration to the interest of the western producer, of the Corn Belt feeder, and of the farmer who grows the feed.

While OPA in its moves in relation to meat price fixing will of course largely be guided by the interest of the consumer, we feel certain that Secretary Wickard, who must be consulted before final action is taken, recognizes the necessity of keeping in balance the interest of the three factors essential to beef production referred to above and would therefore oppose ceilings on a basis too low to make certain the production of beef on the scale needed throughout this emergency.

## POST-WAR PLANNING

FOR SOME MONTHS PAST A CONGRESSIONAL committee has been delving into the question of economy in non-defense (now non-war) governmental activities, on the entirely correct theory that the tax burdens which are being imposed upon American people as the price of winning the war will not be very gracefully accepted if there is not a decided move in the direction of strict economy in all such non-essential expenditures.

As this committee has functioned and has shown how and where government expenditures can be reduced, the various

bureaus affected have rallied to the fight to continue "government as usual" while everyone else is being told that every sacrifice must be made to win the war. Practically all government agencies, even those set up purely as spending agencies to push money out during the depression of the early thirties, have succeeded in having themselves designated as war agencies through some more or less remote connection with the war program. In addition, in order to prevent wholesale curtailment of non-war activities, the cry is being made that we must not do away with any of these emergency agencies today because we might need them when the war is over even worse than we needed them during the depression.

Further to complicate the situation, just as we are getting into full swing in the war, a great deal is being said about post-war planning. All kinds of pipe dreams are being indulged in. The New Deal is to be extended to the world at large, tariffs are to be reduced or wiped out entirely, and the world is to live as one great big, happy international family, everybody buying everybody else's products freely whether they need them or not, all for the good of the cause.

Then, too, there is a great deal of planning with more specific objectives for our own country. Great highway systems are to be devised and continued deficit spending carried on to insure that everybody has plenty of everything. Who is going to pay for it all, if payment is ever to be made, is entirely forgotten.

Someway this idea of post-war planning and the formation of planning boards has gone so far that very little is heard about the necessity of winning the war first. Who can say what conditions will be when the war is over? Who can say what agencies will be needed to cope with problems that cannot be intelligently foreseen now? If thousands of businessmen handling automobiles, tires, gasoline, refrigerators, washing machines, typewriters, and so on are to be deprived of their occupations as a necessary war measure and are forced to relocate themselves some place in the war machine, should not the same rule be applied to the emergency government agencies whose activities certainly do not compare in importance to the essential businesses which have just been referred to. The employees of these emergency agencies and the beneficiaries of their programs likewise should be absorbed in the war effort if the job is to be done right.

Unfortunately, neither the President nor Congress seems anxious to take the lead in this matter. The President seems to feel that it is up to Congress to initiate the economy moves, but it might be recalled that many of these agencies were set up by the Congress at

the express wish and, it might be said, express direction of the President. At least he could go as far in dismantling them as he did in helping to create them. There are encouraging signs that Congress is finally waking up to its responsibility in the matter. This is election year and congressmen are hearing from home. People are demanding economy and equity in treatment of all groups, including labor. Perhaps we will not get the full result which might be obtained now, but it is certain that a start will be made, and, if the war continues long, beyond question the demands for war effort will override all objections and our full strength be placed where it belongs—on winning the war.

### LINGERING INDICTMENTS

**A**N ITEM IN ANOTHER PART OF this magazine announces that thirty-three firms and individuals—packers, the stockyards company, commission men, and others—handling sheep on the Denver market are now under federal indictment, charged with conspiring to restrain trade. This is the sixth indictment directed at market agencies. Alleging various offenses, they started last summer in Chicago, then came indictments at Oklahoma City, Omaha, and St. Joseph. No trial of any of the defendants in any of the cases has taken place.

An indictment of course is only the averment of an offense as found by a grand jury. It is not a judgment against the defendant. Until the case gets to trial, the defendant has no opportunity to refute or explain its charges. Nevertheless, the effect of the indictment is something more than simply a charge. It does, although legally it should not, impute guilt in the defendant. In the case of the defendants here mentioned, even though they operate under strict government supervision, it undermines confidence of the public in the marketing branch of the nation's livestock industry.

It can be answered that the prosecutor and the grand jury are not accountable for the reaction of the public to an indictment which it is their duty to bring in. That is so. But here we raise the question of whether or not the actions have been prosecuted with reasonable speed. The question of whether or not there have been technical or actual violations of the law surely could in at least the earlier cases have been before the court by this time and a clear line drawn there to show what is and what is not lawful practice for the defendants involved.

Indicting and going no further can do no one good; but the growing list of charges hanging over the markets can do great harm—harm to the markets, harm to the producers, and in the final analysis harm to the public.

## WASHINGTON

### WASHINGTON NOTES

**TAXES.**—The \$7,500,000,000 tax program proposed in early March by Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., would in the case of individuals retain the present personal exemptions and allowances for dependents; abolish the 10 per cent credit on earned income; change the surtax rates from 6 to 77 per cent to 12 to 86 per cent and estate and gift taxes from 3 to 77 per cent to 8 to 80 per cent. In the case of corporations normal rates are unchanged, the present 6 to 7 per cent surtax abolished but replaced by a "special war tax" of 16 per cent on those earning less than \$25,000 and up to 31 per cent on larger corporations; excess profits taxes are put at 50 to 75 per cent instead of 35 to 60; and "declared value excess profits" and capital stock taxes are repealed. Excises on fifteen items are heavily increased, such as from 1½ to 3 cents on a gallon of gasoline; 4½ to 10 cents on a gallon of lubricating oil; \$6 to \$8 on a barrel of beer, and \$4 to \$6 on a gallon of whiskey. . . . Secretary Morgenthau has expressed opposition to further taxation in lower brackets either through lowering personal exemptions or a general sales tax. . . . The limit on national debt to \$125,000,000,000 has been approved by the House Ways and Means Committee. Secretary Morgenthau said that this would be enough for the next fiscal year but that he would "be back again within the year for another increase."

**SELECTIVE SERVICE.**—The selective service national headquarters in a memorandum to its boards called attention in early March, as it had done in February, to the agricultural labor supply problem and requested that the status of farmer registrants be analyzed in relation to information on essential agricultural production. . . . Secretary of Agriculture Wickard announced a program to aid mobilization of farm labor man power through registration of farm men, women, and youths; use of qualified persons on NYA and WPA projects; use of

town people for peak seasonal operations; training for farm labor; and registration of labor requirements of all farmers. . . . Secretary Wickard said that farmers requesting occupational deferment should furnish the local selective service board with complete information on (1) the importance of the products grown on the farm, (2) the contribution of the individual to that production, and (3) the difficulty in replacing the individual. . . . Brigadier General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, in a talk at Topeka, Kansas, said that "in supplying man power for the armed forces and war industries we must exercise great care not to deplete the man power necessary to produce needed food."

**AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS.**—Several phases of the New Deal's farm program will be sharply curtailed if the Senate follows the House lead in its action on the 1943 agricultural supply bill. As approved by the House in mid-March, the measure provided \$771,555,137 for farm expenditures during the coming fiscal year, compared with \$1,127,623,854 voted for the current fiscal year. The budget recommended \$678,676,129, exclusive of borrowing authority or re-appropriations. The House appropriation committee bill totaled \$820,065,859, including \$676,681,239 in direct appropriations, \$125,000,000 in borrowing authority, and \$18,384,620 in re-appropriations. Major House economies hit the Farm Security Administration and farm tenant loans obtained through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. One of the provisions would limit soil conservation payments to \$1,000 rather than the original \$10,000. A possible presidential veto is seen by some congressional leaders if the restriction on the prohibition against sale of government-held farm surpluses below parity prices is retained.

**LABOR LEGISLATION.**—Bills providing for a 6 per cent limit on war profits and suspension of the forty-hour-week law and closed shop on war contracts made a rather unexpected appearance in the House about mid-March. They were drawn by Senator Smith, of Virginia, and Senator Vinson, of Georgia. A bill to outlaw closed shop was introduced in the Senate by Senator Reed, of Kansas. In both cases, the legislation was routed away from the labor committees because of known negative attitude of some of their members. . . . President Roosevelt was reported as studying the question of "parity" compensation for wage earners.

**INSTALLMENT BUYING.**—The Federal Reserve Board has imposed tighter restrictions on installment buying. Payment of one-third down is now required on a second-hand automobile (based on "appraisal guide value"). Down payment on a number of consumer articles have been almost doubled and time for installment payments cut by three months. Articles include refrigerators,

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SAVINGS  
BONDS and  
STAMPS**



washing machines, sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, radios, and musical instruments.

**NYA-CCC.**—Under a new order eliminating all projects of the National Youth Administration with no direct bearing on the war effort, 35,000 young men and women are to be dropped from the rolls. The reduction will leave enrollment at 150,000. . . . CCC has announced that it has virtually completed the conversion of CCC work to war projects. The CCC now has 110,000 enrollees, compared with 300,000 last April.

**CEILINGS.**—Temporary maximum wholesale price regulations on some 90 per cent of America's fresh and cured pork products, effective March 23 and expiring, unless earlier revoked or replaced, at midnight, May 21, 1942, were announced March 10, 1942, by the OPA. The maximum ceilings set are the highest prices that prevailed during the five-day period March 3-7, 1942. . . . The OPA has set uniform maximum prices on domestic shorn wool, as follows: Grease wool on a clean basis at Boston, \$1.20 per pound for fine 70's, two inches and longer. Prices for other grades carry out normal differentials. The schedule of maximum prices is based on the average farm price of 37.1 cents per pound for wool in the grease, prevailing on December 15, 1941 (see page 24).

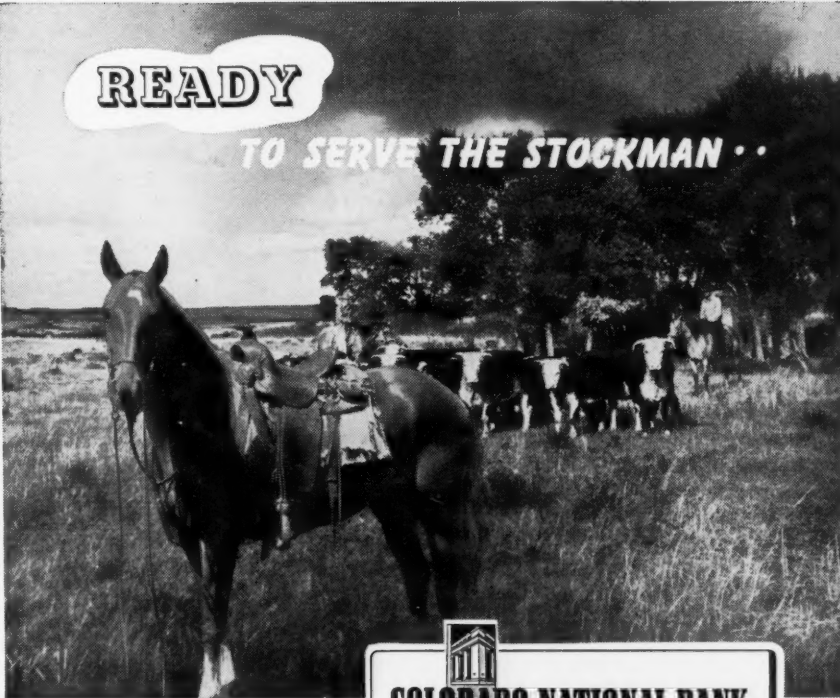
**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Special provisions may have to be made, the OPA said, for persons who buy sugar in bulk for use over prolonged periods, such as farmers and ranchers. . . . Car owners are asked by the WPB to save anti-freeze mixtures to conserve chemicals used in anti-freeze compounds. . . . The War Production Board has ordered that 80 per cent of top-grade leather soles be set aside for the manufacture and repair of military shoes. The order leaves 20 per cent of top grades of soles and the entire supply of lower grades for civilian use. . . . A curb on motor fuel deliveries in seventeen eastern states, the District of Columbia, and Washington and Oregon has been put into effect. It will amount to more than the announced 20 per cent cut for the average motorist because "necessary requirements of essential users" must be met first. Essential use includes farm machinery. A card rationing system is to replace the present 20 per cent limitations on gasoline deliveries soon.


**USED TIRES.**—Amounts that may be charged for used tires have been set by OPA. The schedule divides used tires into four categories, depending on the amount of wear, and fixes maximum prices for each size in each category. For example, the maximum price that may be charged for a 6x16, 4-ply used tire in the best condition is \$8.10.

**AUTOS.**—Grazing Service, said Director R. H. Rutledge, will make available as needed for military or defense construction by the army or other war agencies some 500 automobiles and pieces of heavy machinery, subject to

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Dear Sirs: I have been using two of your machines for the past year and can say I am well pleased with the results. They keep lice and warbles off of the cattle and they are much more contented. This summer I installed one out in the pasture field and it kept the flies off of the cattle. While installing the machine, the cattle would watch their chance to use it before it was completely installed.

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approval of Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes. "The time for 'government as usual' is over," Mr. Rutledge said. "Our work is important, and none of the equipment we are releasing is surplus. It is needed by us for important grazing projects. But some of these will have to wait. The main thing now is to win the war. That's the nation's number one project."

**COTTON.**—Growers have been asked by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard to plant their full national acreage allotment of 27,400,000 acres. He recommended that as much of this acreage allotment as possible be planted in

medium or longer staple varieties of cotton in order to assure adequate supplies of the qualities needed to meet military requirements. This does not mean that cotton acreage will be increased, or that farmers should exceed their quotas.

## LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

**THE NUMBER OF ALL CATTLE ON** farms January 1, 1942, reached 74,607,000 head—an increase of 3,146,000 head or 4 per cent over a year earlier and of 6,410,000 head over the revised estimate of January 1, 1940. The number this year was about 238,000 head

larger than on January 1, 1934—the peak of the preceding cattle number cycle—and 1,567,000 head larger than on January 1, 1918—the peak of the second preceding cycle. Compared with January 1, 1941, there was an increase of 1,286,000 in milk cattle—cows and heifers and heifer calves—and of 1,860,000 in other cattle.

Number of milk cows (cows and heifers two years old and over) on January 1, 1942, was 26,303,000 head—an increase of 825,000 head or about 3 per cent over a year earlier. This was the second largest number on record. The number of yearling heifers being kept for milk cows of 5,825,000 head was up 165,000 head from a year earlier and was the largest number on record. The 6,515,000 heifer calves being kept for milk cows represented an increase of 296,000 head and was also the largest on record. The value per head of milk cows on January 1, 1942, of \$77.92 was up \$17.02 from a year earlier and was the fourth largest on record.

The number of hogs on farms January 1, 1942, of 60,526,000 head was up 6,270,000 head or 12 per cent from a year earlier but was down about 500,000 head from the revised estimate of January 1, 1940.

Estimated number of stock sheep on January 1, 1942, was 49,204,000 head—an increase of 1,400,000 head or 3 per cent over a year earlier. The number of sheep and lambs on feed for market on January 1, 1942, of 6,775,000 head was up about 300,000 head. The total of all sheep of 55,979,000 head is the largest for all years. The revised estimate of stock sheep on farms January 1, 1940, is 46,558,000 head. This number is 2,135,000 head smaller than the estimate shown in the livestock report of a year ago. This is much the largest revision made in any species on the basis of the 1940 Census of Agriculture report.

Number of horses, including colts, on farms January 1, 1942, was 9,856,000 head—a decrease of about 4 per cent from a year earlier. The number of horses over two years old and of colts one to two years and of colts under one year were all smaller than a year ago. This points to a continuation of the decline in horse numbers over the next few years. The value per head on January 1 of \$64.81 was down \$3.46 from a year earlier and was the lowest since 1933. The total value of horses on farms of \$638,757,000, was the lowest in over forty years.

A further decline in mule numbers brought the total on January 1, 1942, to 3,811,000 head—a decrease of 3 per cent from a year earlier. For the first time since 1933 the number of mule colts under one year old was smaller than a year earlier. The value per head on January 1, 1942, was \$107.52 compared with \$107.21 a year earlier and the total of \$409,742,000 was down \$10,700,000.

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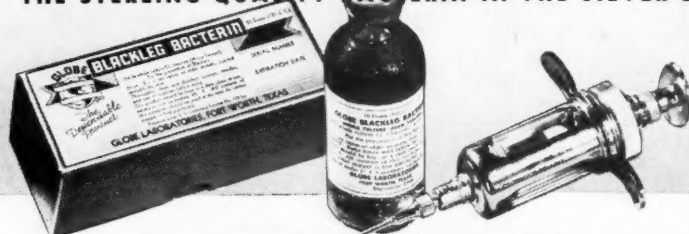
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The World's Largest Anti-Hog-Cholera and Animal Vaccine Plant

THE STERLING QUALITY BACTERIN IN THE SILVER BOX



### "VACCINATE for VICTORY" with GLOBE BLACKLEG BACTERIN

Never before has it been so important for every cattleman to protect his stock. Our nation needs more and better cattle. Never before has the dependability of Globe Blackleg Bacterin been more important — because vaccination now does more than protect your profits. It helps to equip your Uncle Sam with the weapons for victory.



**GLOBE LABORATORIES**

FORT WORTH

LOS ANGELES - DENVER - KANSAS CITY - LITTLE ROCK - MEMPHIS





Darwin (left) and Doyle Symms are brothers and partners — two of the most progressive apple growers I've talked to for many a day. In the Snake River Valley of Idaho, near Caldwell, the Symms brothers have about 80 acres in apples. And they're planting out new apple acreage every year — Black Jonathans, Red Rome Beauties, Starking Delicious, and some Golden Delicious

## NEW ANGLES ON APPLES

### *Take it from the Symms brothers —*

"WE BELIEVE that most fruit trees, particularly apple trees, start to get unprofitable when they're about 25 years old. You just don't seem to get the quality fruit — and you must have quality fruit these days to stay in business.

"Another thing we've noticed is that consumer preferences for apples change. Many of the varieties planted 25 to 30 years ago are not so popular now, and they sell for less than some of the newer varieties.

"Consequently, we're carrying out a regular program of new planting every year, selecting new popular varieties and planting enough acreage of each variety to allow us to ship in carload lots, like buyers mostly want. We're expanding our packing operation, too—building a new packing shed.

"By hard experience we've found that it doesn't pay to ship apples or other fruits on consignment. Nothing leaves our farm until it is sold by phone or wire. We can hold 10,000 bushels in underground storage if we believe the price is not just right.

"It pays to study fruit marketing and make good connections. (Doyle Symms worked a year in a wholesale fruit house in Kansas City to learn the business.) Don't rush into any deal — give it careful consideration."

TOLD TO YOUR SAFEWAY FARM REPORTER



Three tractors and four trucks are among the modern equipment used by the Symms brothers (photo shows Darwin at wheel of tractor). "If a buyer wants fruit in a hurry and less than carload lots we send it by truck," Darwin told me. "Another advantage of having trucks is that we can haul cheaper and quicker to towns not on the railroad main lines. We truck about 50% of our apples to markets we've

developed in Montana, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming and even in California. A lot of our fruit is bought by food chains such as Safeway. We have found the Safeway people fair and square to deal with, insisting on good quality but always willing to pay the going price or better. Both Doyle and I like to trade at the Safeway stores in Caldwell and Nampa. We certainly do appreciate the savings"



With advertising like this, the Symms brothers agree, Safeway stores do a fine job of educating people to buy and eat more apples

# MARKETS

## BEEF STEER VALUES IN SHARP RISE

By H. W. FRENCH

**T**HE OUTSTANDING FEATURE OF the cattle market at Chicago during the past month was the sharp rise in values for beef steers and especially for choice grades. There seemed to be no limit to the demand for choice and prime steers, and that was not much of a surprise to many, with the let-up in the supply of top grades. During February choice and prime slaughter steers made up 25.2 per cent of the run, as contrasted with 35.1 per cent in January. Both good and medium steers were in larger proportion than in the previous month, while the common grade fell off slightly.



Naturally there was a widening of the price spread between medium and choice steers, and this condition may prevail for several months unless more long-fed cattle put in an appearance. Steers fed around a year were in the smallest volume in months, while warmed-up and short-fed kinds predominated. There were many loads received fed from four to seven months and many others were only in the feed-lots 100 to 120 days. While the spread between medium and choice grades was widening, the spread between light and heavy weights was narrowing, showing that finish was a necessity and weight was not a hindering factor. This condition was most pronounced at mid-March.

A recent report issued by the Department of Agriculture showed that the number of livestock on farms increased materially during 1941, and on January 1, 1942, the total in terms of animal units stood the largest since 1934. The total for meat animals was the largest on record. Horses and mules declined, while both cattle and sheep made new high records and hogs hit the fourth highest level in over fifteen years. The total inventory value of livestock on farms on January 1, 1942, at \$6,590,535,000 was up 31 per cent from a year earlier and the largest since 1920.

The continued upward swing in the cycle of cattle numbers brought the total for all cattle to 74,607,000—up 4 per cent from a year earlier. Of the cattle there were 26,303,000 head of milk cows (cows and heifers two years old and over), while it was estimated that the number of yearling heifers kept for milk cows total 5,825,000. The total number of

sheep was 55,979,000 and the total for hogs was placed at 60,526,000.

Many west coast cattle buyers, operated in the Colorado and Nebraska areas and took several thousand head of steer, some cows, and a few heifers and bulls. This was in addition to the number they purchased on the Denver market, where the western demand centered on medium-to-good slaughter steers, mostly from 1,100 to 1,300 pounds. Apparently this demand must be reckoned with more and more as time goes on, although it probably will have no particular influence on the market for strictly choice and prime steers.

Prices at mid-March on the Chicago market were slightly irregular as compared with a month earlier. Strictly choice fed steers showed mostly 75 cents to \$1 advance for the period and hit the highest level since February, 1941, and this was also true of some of the Missouri River points. The advance on common-to-good steers measured mostly 25 to 50 cents. Fat heifers and cows were generally steady to 25 cents higher after considerable fluctuation, but canners and cutters displayed a weaker tendency. Bulls continued in exceptionally broad demand when weighty and looked mainly 25 cents higher. Vealers showed a late rise of mostly 50 cents, but there was little change in heavy slaughter calves.

### Strictly Choice Fed Steers Reach Top of \$15.40

The new current top for fed steers was \$15.40, paid for strictly choice 1,129-pound offerings, but much heavier offerings sold up to \$15.35 along with some yearlings and steers averaging 1,500 pounds were reported up to \$15.30. During the early part of the period buyers managed to keep the top below \$15, although later any number of steers of all weights showing high finish cleared at \$15 to \$15.25. Before the sharp rise many good heavy steers cleared at \$13 to \$14.25 and included some 1,611- to 1,688-pound weights at \$13.25 to \$13.60. Many medium steers at one time sold at \$10 to \$11.25 but the late medium-to-good short-feds were taken largely at \$11 to \$14. Some medium-to-good 1,690-pound steers landed at \$12.85, and a market east of Chicago reported some 1,789-pound Ohio steers fed eighteen months at \$13.25.

Some choice 1,006-pound grain-fed heifers at Chicago reached \$14.25 and a few loads made \$13.50 to \$14, but the bulk consisted of medium-to-good grades selling at \$10 to \$12.50. Strictly good cows were quoted around \$9.75 to \$10, but not many were actually reported much above \$9, although strong weight cutters passed \$8 and only light canners landed below \$6. Strictly good heavy bulls easily made \$10.25 to \$10.50 and a few reached \$10.60 while only light weights were to be had from \$9.50 down.

Usually the top on vealers rested at \$15 but there were some late at \$15.50.

Strictly choice fed steers at Omaha reached \$15 and averaged 1,090 pounds, but not many others sold above \$14, although some 1,141- to 1,550-pound weights made \$14.50. Any number of good-to-choice 1,200 pounds down went at \$13 to \$13.65 and somewhat similar 1,300- to 1,450-pound kinds scored \$12.25 to \$13. Many medium steers sold at \$10.50 to \$11.50 and few at any time landed under \$10. Most fed heifers sold at \$11 to \$11.75 but several good loads scored \$12 to \$12.50 and choice 819- to 932-pound offerings made \$12.75 to \$13. It was largely an \$8.50 to \$9.25 market for beef cows, although heiferish cows were noted at \$9.50 to \$10.25. Bulls usually went from \$10 down.

Some steers sold up to \$14 at Kansas City where some choice 1,060- to 1,350-pound offerings made \$13.50 to \$13.75 and the bulk grading medium to choice scored \$10.75 to \$13.25, although common kinds were reported down to \$9.25. Fed mixed yearlings also topped at \$14. Medium-to-good heifers usually sold at \$10 to \$12.35 and best available scored \$12.75 in the absence of strictly choice. Not many cows sold at \$9.50 or higher. Bulls frequently passed \$9.75 and vealers made a practical top of \$14.50.

A few loads of average choice steers made \$12.65 to \$12.75 at Denver and best sold at \$13, although strictly choice kinds were quotable above the latter figure. It was largely a \$10.75 to \$12.50 market for medium to strictly good kinds. Most of the steers taken on west coast account were reported at \$11.25 to \$12.50. No heifers had finish enough to pass \$12 and many medium-to-good kinds cleared at \$10 to \$11.75. Several loads of good cows went at \$9.15 to \$9.35 but most of the common-to-good offerings scored \$8 to \$9 and only very light canners sold below \$6. Most medium-to-good bulls cleared at \$9.25 to \$10 but common light kinds landed much below \$9. Occasional sales of vealers were noted at \$16.25 to \$16.50 but choice kinds bulked at \$16.

Sioux City reported most medium-to-good steers at \$10.75 to \$12.75 and had some choice 1,050- to 1,330-pound loads at \$13.75 to \$13.85, with choice 1,664-pound offerings at \$13. Medium-to-good cows made \$8.25 to \$9.75, a few choice kinds landing at \$10 to \$10.35. Bulls went at \$10.25 down and the practical top on vealers was \$14. Most medium-to-good steers at St. Paul went at \$10.50 to \$12.50 and some choice 1,190- to 1,230-pound arrivals sold at \$14.50 to \$14.65. Cows reached \$9.50 and medium-to-good bulls cleared at \$8.75 to \$10, with veal calves up to \$15. A few prime steers scored \$15 at St. Joseph, where some choice loads made \$13.35 to \$14 and most medium-to-good kinds were taken at \$11 to \$12.75. Heifers topped at \$12.75, with the bulk at \$10.25 to \$12.50 and mixed yearlings as high as \$13.25.

Stocker and feeder cattle and calves at Chicago were mostly 25 to 50 cents



higher, as the recent boost in prices for most slaughter classes made country buyers more in the mood to buy replacement stock. Activity featured the market on a moderate supply and elsewhere the demand was also broad despite sharply high prices. There was good request for fleshy heavy feeder steers at some markets, but on the whole most buyers were after thin light weight animals more suitable for grazing purposes, as is normally the case at this season of the year.

There were 96,534 stocker and feeder cattle sent out of first hands from Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Paul during the first two months of the year, against 87,654 the same period last year. Only a small part of these weighed above 900 pounds and the big end of them were within the 500- to 800-pound weight group. In fact, two-thirds of them were of that character.

Stocker and feeder steers purchased at Chicago during January and February cost \$10.41 against \$9.73 for a like time a year earlier. Cost at Kansas City was \$10.63 and \$10.09, respectively, and at St. Paul figured \$9.74 and \$8.58, respectively. No allowance was made for the difference in grade at the different markets in these calculations.

Most of the steers taken at Chicago for stocker and feeder purposes made \$10 to \$12.50, but choice light yearlings were quoted at materially higher figures. Some good-to-choice 1,100-pound fleshy feeder steers went at \$11.85. Any number of good-to-choice steers were secured at Omaha at \$11.25 to \$12.35 and some choice 724-pound offerings scored \$12.50, while strictly choice 628-pound yearlings reached \$13.85. Some strictly good 880- to 1,015-pound feeder steers made \$11 to \$11.15. Most of the good-to-choice steer calves landed at \$12.50 to \$14, but dealers secured \$14.50 to \$14.65 for some well-sorted holdings, and heifer calves went at \$12.25 down.

Many medium-to-choice steers were taken by country buyers at Kansas City at \$9.50 to \$12.25 and some scored \$12.40 to \$12.50, while short yearlings of very light weight sold as high as \$13.60, others landing at \$13.25. Best steer calves

cleared at \$13.50 to \$14 and heifer calves reached \$13. Choice feeder steers at St. Paul were noted at \$11.50 to \$11.85. Medium-to-good steers at Sioux City made \$9.25 to \$11.25 and choice 700- to 768-pound kinds scored \$11.75 to \$12 while choice 580-pound heifers went out at \$11.50. Good-to-choice heifer calves above 450 pounds sold at \$12.10 to \$12.25. Medium-to-good steers were obtained at St. Joseph at \$9.25 to \$11.25 and good heifers at \$9.50 to \$10.25.

Inquiry for choice light yearling steers at Denver went unsatisfied, although buyers found many good-to-choice lots at \$11.50 to \$12, taking some bigger steers for feeding purposes at \$10.50 to \$11.40. Common and medium steers usually sold at \$8.50 to \$10.25. Good-to-choice heifers made \$10 to \$11.25 and medium lots sold down to \$9.25. Most of the cows on country account went at \$6.50 to \$7.50 but some light weights reached \$8.50. Good-to-choice steer calves were most numerous at \$12 to \$14 but some mixed steer and heifer calves around 300 pounds sold as high as \$14.50 and straight heifer calves topped at \$12.50.

#### Pork Products Under Wholesale Ceilings

Temporary maximum wholesale price regulations on some 90 per cent of fresh and cured pork products in the United States were issued, effective March 23 and expiring, unless earlier revoked or replaced, at midnight, May 21, 1942. The maximum ceiling is based on the highest prices that prevailed during the five-day period, March 3-7.

The hog market has been going up so sharply that wholesale pork prices climbed to a level which caused some complaint on the part of consumers. Prevailing prices are exceptionally high on live hogs and dressed pork products, and live hogs before any reaction of consequence occurred hit the highest level since 1926—a year when best barrows and gilts topped at \$15 on the high day.

Mid-March prices for hogs at Chicago stood 45 to 65 cents higher than a month earlier and weights from 270 pounds up enjoyed the most upturn, as the outlet for lard showed sharp improvement, mainly because of government buying.

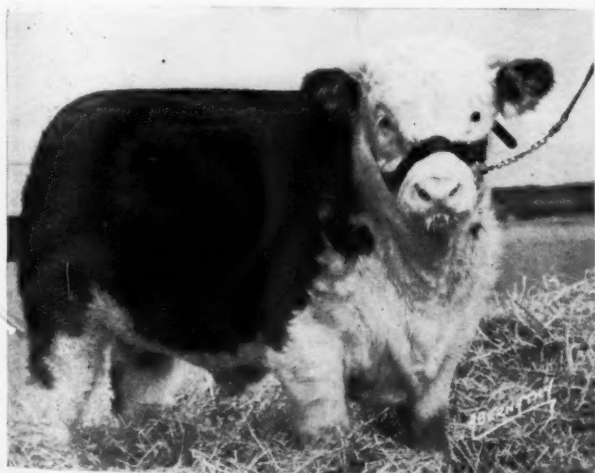
The holdings of lard in cold storage on March 1 were nearly 91,000,000 pounds below a year ago. Sows showed more upturn than barrows and gilts, as the gain measured 55 to 80 cents.

Opening March prices found best hogs at Chicago selling at \$13.15, and after the maximum upturn later a top of \$13.75 was registered. Some reaction was reported before the market settled down, and slight improvement made the mid-March top \$13.55. At that time the bulk of the good-to-choice 180- to 270-pound hogs were selling at \$13.25 to \$13.50 and heavier kinds usually made \$13.10 to \$13.40. Good-to-choice sows from 300 to 450 pounds sold largely at \$12.80 to \$13.10.

#### California Spring Lamb Contracting Quiet

Contracting of spring lambs in California has been of very small volume to date, due partly to the uncertainty of feed conditions. Lambs in that state got off to a good start but during February lack of precipitation, cold nights, and drying winds checked the growth of feed. Most early lambs will make good slaughter weights with seasonal weather in March and April. A few fat contracts were reported in the San Joaquin Valley at \$11, f.o.b. loading points, with March or later delivery, and some purchases were reported in the Sacramento Valley at \$11 for late April or later delivery.

The number of early lambs in the principal producing states is somewhat smaller this year than last, according to report issued by the Department of Agriculture. The early lambing season to March 1 was below a year ago but at least up to average. Losses of lambs have been below average. Marketings of spring lambs before July 1 will be smaller than last year. Weather has been cold, with periods of rather low temperatures in the early lambing sections of the Pacific coast and adjoining states. In the eastern early lambing states there was an open winter but little green feed has been available. In the main sheep area of Texas deficient moisture and periods of low temperature in January and February restricted the growth of new feed, and old feed has been of poor quality.



## Good! Breed them that way

Results aren't always as happy as this great calf (1st Junior Bull Calf Chicago International 1941) but it's fun trying and "fun" that pays profits, and you can get big help along the way with

### WHR blood

Right now we have a few bulls old enough for service, suitable for good commercial herds. Also several top notch HERD BULLS.

**WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH, Cheyenne**

General demand for slaughter lambs is not confined to lambs from 100 pounds down, but lambs of that weight sell most readily and at a premium over heavier kinds, grade for grade. Complaint continues that too many lambs are heavier than exacting trade requirements will allow, and buyers demand sharply discounted prices on offerings passing 105 pounds and especially those in excess of 110 pounds. The market has fluctuated considerably the past month but at mid-March slaughter lambs at Chicago were on a steady to strong basis as compared with a month earlier. An unusually broad demand for good-to-choice fat ewes continued, and such offerings for the period were around 75 cents higher. Yearlings are nominal.

Market reports on shorn lambs often contain statements about No. 1 pelts, fall or summer shorn, etc. For the benefit of those who desire the meaning of such terminology, the following information is given: Lambs, full wooled, have over 1½ inches wool growth; fall and summer shorn, 1 to 1½ inches; No. 1 pelts, ½ to 1 inch; No. 2 pelts, ¼ to ½ inch; and No. 3 pelts and fresh shorn, under ¼ inch.

There were some choice wooled lambs at Chicago below 100 pounds at \$12.40 on several occasions during the month under review but at mid-March comparable offerings were to be had at \$12.15. During a good part of the period good-to-choice 95- to 105-pound fat wooled lambs sold at \$11.75 to \$12.25 and the bigger weights usually landed at \$11 to \$11.50. Summer shorn fed lambs reached \$12. Choice fed lambs with No. 1 pelts reached \$11 at Omaha and heavier ones of similar grade made \$10.60 at St. Joseph, where those with No. 2 pelts landed at \$10.

Any number of good-to-choice slaughter ewes, mostly of a fed western variety, sold in Chicago at \$6.75 to \$7.50, and the practical top of \$7.75 was established. One deck averaging only 92 pounds sold up to \$7.85. Common and medium ewes sold mostly at \$5 to \$6.50. Tops at Missouri River markets on fat ewes were at \$7 and above; some, \$7.10 at Denver.

Feeding and shearing lambs around the market circuit were in fair request but there was no particular urgency to the demand. In the main, prices of a month ago were maintained, although there were instances where sales were called around 25 cents lower. Most of the good-to-choice feeding and shearing lambs sold at \$10.50 to \$11.25 but there were some up to \$11.50 at Chicago, Omaha, and Sioux City.

**COVER PICTURE**—Last month's PRODUCER cover picture of a little bunch of Whitefaces munching hay was taken by Margaret Brock, daughter of J. Elmer Brock, former president of the American National Live Stock Association. This month's cover is by C. J. Belden, Pitchfork, Wyoming.

## CEILINGS ON WOOL; HIDE DEMAND ACTIVE

By H. W. F.

**TOTAL PRODUCTION OF WOOL IN** the United States, both shorn and pulled, in 1941 was estimated by the Department of Agriculture at 454,928,000 pounds. This included 389,128,000 pounds shorn and 65,800,000 pounds pulled. Production in 1940 was 374,564,000 pounds shorn and 62,000,000 pounds pulled, or a total of 436,564,000 pounds of wool. There were 47,970,000 sheep shorn in 1941 against 46,645,000 head in 1940. The average per sheep was 8.11 pounds against 8.03 a year earlier. The pulled wool production in 1941 was the largest since 1937 but the average weight of wool pulled per skin was 3.42 pounds—the largest on record. Price of shorn wool in 1941 was 35.5 cents against 28.3 cents in 1940. The cash income from wool for 1941 was estimated at \$138,195,000 and stood the highest since 1916, or the second highest on record.

The ceiling price recently established on wool is on a clean wool basis and does not fix a 37.1-cent maximum price for the wool growers on a grease basis, as interpreted by some wool dealers. Prices for wool in the grease should bear a relationship to the clean wool prices, but the government has ordered a halt to practices of some dealers in misrepresenting the terms of the price ceiling on domestic wool in the grease on the farm. Free negotiation is possible and the farmer may try to get any price on grease wool that he is able to obtain.

Many new clips in the western states have been contracted, and such dealing has made for activity. A number of these contracts for fine territory wool were turned over to manufacturers at \$1.12 to \$1.16, scoured basis, for average to good wools, and at \$1.15 to \$1.18 for choice wools. Announcement of new government requirements for large quantities of wool goods had a strengthening influence on the market.

Domestic wools were firm to slightly higher at Boston around mid-March. There was a fair demand for fine Australian and South African wools at firm prices. Not much interest was shown in fleece wools. Fine combing Ohio delaines were quoted mainly at 46 to 48 cents, in the grease. Graded half blood combing bright fleece wools sold at 48 to 50 cents. Graded three-eighths and quarter blood bright fleeces went mostly at 52 to 53 cents. Sales of semibright three-eighths and quarter blood fleeces made 46 to 49 cents for some of the lighter shrinking wools.

Large quantities of fine and half blood territory wools sold at \$1.12 to \$1.15 and some as high as \$1.18, scoured basis. These were largely choice French combing and staple length wools. Average-to-good french combing wool made \$1.08

to \$1.11. Graded three-eighths blood combing territory wool cleared at \$1 to \$1.05 and graded quarter blood combing wool made 95 to 98 cents.

Twelve-month Texas wools were in demand at \$1.12 to \$1.17, scoured basis. Eight-month Texas wool was quiet at \$1.06 to \$1.08. Fall Texas wool had little demand at 95 to 98 cents.

Original bag adult mohair sold in small volume at 60 to 65 cents, with slightly more inquiry for kid hair at 85 cents. Sorted mohair moved at \$1 to \$1.10 for first kid and at 90 cents to \$1 for second kid. Medium mohair sorts were placed at 65 to 85 cents.

### Hide Demand Should Continue

There was an active demand on the Pacific coast for the February take-off of hides and the New York market also was very good. Packers allocated hides and these were absorbed as soon as offered. There was some distribution of calfskins. It was an easy matter to dispose of everything offered at ceiling prices. The outlet was so broad that the early March take-off which was offered sold immediately. It is almost certain that the demand for hides will continue large enough to care for everything, although some are of the belief that there may be a little buying pressure in April.

Quotations are practically nominal and the general basis is as follows: Heavy and light native steer, 15½ cents; butt brand steer, 14½ cents; heavy and light native cow, 15½ cents; branded cow, 14½ cents; Colorado steer, 14 cents; and native bull, 12 cents. Packer kipskins were quoted at 17½ to 20 cents and calfskins at 23½ to 27 cents.

The country hide market was uneven but little changed, although little interest was shown in heavy averages which apparently outnumbered other offerings. Quotations on country hides were as follows: All-weights, 14 cents; extremes, 15 cents; and bulls, 9¾ to 10 cents. Branded hides made 13½ to 13¾ cents.



"It's a good thing the soldiers don't have to depend on her. That's the same sweater she was working on during the first World war!"

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER



## ALL CORN BELT HOG HOUSES OCCUPIED

By JAMES E. POOLE



### DEPLETION OF THE 1942 BEEF

supply proceeds apace. Corn Belt feeders have reversed their 1941 policy, cashing steers in little better than fleshing feeder condition—two-way cattle, to use market vernacular. Thousands of these are going to the beef-rail each week; many need another 100 days on corn to hang up decent carcasses. Once a two-way steer reaches any market it rarely finds its way back to a feed-lot, as killers invariably outbid feeders in any contest for possession. Killers can use light carcasses to advantage, as the beef needs no salesmanship, and can recover their money within ten days or less, while buying this type launches feeders on a gambling operation with no certain outcome.

The logical result is that the proportion of finished steers in weekly receipts is rapidly diminishing; that of medium and common grades swelling. The former have gone to premiums after dreary months of depression wallowing, and, unless consumers balk, which happened in 1937 when a beef strike developed all across the continent, still higher prices are certain. The natural law of cause and effect operates unerringly. Making cattle heavy precipitated a debacle last year, and the error will not be repeated.

Secretary Wickard has set up a new beef production goal—some 25 per cent heavier than last year—but he knows

the increase will not materialize, as does everybody in the trade. Corn is advancing with every other item of expense involved in beef-making, and every short-fed steer sent to the beef-rail reduces potential production just that much. No beef is being taken by the lend-lease purchasers. At intervals the fat-cattle market is likely to develop semi-bare spots, and, in any event, it will not be glutted with elephantine bullocks as was the case during lengthy periods in 1941.

### A Swine Production Furore Is On

Swine breeding stock has more than doubled in value; a second-hand hog house is a prize package; and every rural carpenter is working night shifts improving pig shelters. There is scant demand for commercial cattle feeds, but similar hog feed supplements are difficult to buy. By rationing molasses, Washington has reduced the efficacy of these condiments which accelerate growing and fattening swine; thus while Wickard is appealing for more hog product, another branch of the bureaucracy is effectively checkmating his plans.

Stock pigs are as scarce as intelligence in congressional circles. At a recent Indiana sale some 1,200 head, averaging 75 pounds, realized a \$16.35 per cwt. average; but such events are rare over the hinterland, as gathering is difficult. The South declines to part with pigs, scouts returning from below the Ohio River saying that a reported boom in commercial swine breeding in the cotton and tobacco belts was mythical—merely another case of "what you read in the papers isn't so."

Inestimable thousands of yearling steers are being diverted from eastern markets to the Pacific coast. I spent a few hours with a Linn County, Iowa, man recently who feeds 2,500 steers annually in addition to supplying neighbors. Down in Texas he had 2,700 yearlings averaging 900 pounds in a feed-lot preparatory to moving them to Iowa for a corn finish, when a California buyer appeared taking the entire smear at \$11.50 per cwt., May 1 delivery. This is merely one instance of such diversion.

It means sharp curtailment of Corn Belt beef production this year, if not actual deficiency. Price prediction is obviously absurd, but a cinch bet is that the 1942 fat-cattle market will be radically different from that of 1941. Processors know it, if Washington experts are ignorant of the fact.

### Recalls Processing Tax

Experiments in controlling hog prices have rarely been successful. Recall the Hoover 17½-cent edict late in the last war and the much execrated \$2 processing tax conceived by some bureaucrat during the recent depression which still rankles in growers' minds. It would have been extended to cattle but for vigorous opposition by that arm of the livestock industry, despite strenuous bureaucratic effort to put it over. Antagonistic opinion generated such force that official emissaries sent into the field to propagate the vicious idea apologized from the platform. Such idiotic schemes are probably dead, but, when the taxing germ breaks loose, you never can tell.

This experiment does not savor of tax but is an effort to check a soaring hog market that was getting out of hand, having advanced \$2 per cwt. since the Pearl Harbor incident. Lend-lease buyers showed alarm. Chicago cost of hog droves was flirting with \$14—recalling the \$20 market late in the last war. Financing processing operations had reached prohibitive levels. Leon Henderson, price co-ordinator, consulted processors, and after several weeks spent in deliberation a ceiling was placed on the price of pork, excepting edible portions of the viscera and such meat as goes into sausage. Average cost of droves at Chicago was then flirting with \$13.50. The immediate result was a decline, with a prospect of further depreciation during the sixty-day tryout. In the event that drove cost swings between \$12 and \$13 per cwt., the plan will be considered successful, as Washington is not anxious to depress prices to an extent that will check Wickard's production stimulation program. It is probable that more pork will be needed during the next eighteen

## APRIL 3 IS THE DATE

### COLORADO'S GREATEST SPRING SALE

42 Bulls

76 HEAD REGISTERED HEREFORDS

34 Heifers

Herd bull prospects. Some exceptional range bulls of serviceable age.

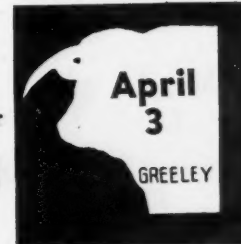
Stroh Sales Pavilion

Greeley, Colorado

Save gasoline & rubber by buying at Greeley—easily reached by train or car

### Northern Colorado Hereford Breeders

For catalog, write Stow Witwer, Greeley, Colorado  
Fred Reppert, Auctioneer



**160 N. LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**GENERAL OFFICES: DENVER, COLORADO**



## LIVESTOCK AT STOCKYARDS

	February 1942	1941	First Two Months 1942	1941
<b>RECEIPTS—</b>				
Cattle*	1,106,428	931,118	2,427,753	2,066,777
Calves	360,707	382,158	827,988	846,799
Hogs	2,463,038	2,512,957	6,166,603	5,552,403
Sheep	1,534,848	1,415,503	3,325,831	3,136,942
<b>TOTAL SHIPMENTS†—</b>				
Cattle*	360,951	345,345	838,061	763,241
Calves	118,443	131,628	301,711	318,551
Hogs	709,608	698,772	1,742,409	1,579,612
Sheep	629,275	569,291	1,383,491	1,283,407
<b>STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS—</b>				
Cattle*	157,050	174,457	389,195	368,524
Calves	42,410	45,956	120,199	118,012
Hogs	51,302	47,516	111,542	105,501
Sheep	126,254	128,141	323,591	276,485
<b>SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION—</b>				
Cattle*	891,013	717,434	1,948,172	1,608,763
Calves	392,093	383,544	832,138	794,735
Hogs	3,892,077	3,725,255	9,722,690	8,242,569
Sheep	1,406,657	1,390,720	3,017,648	3,015,898

## CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	March 16, 1942	Feb. 16, 1942	March 14, 1941
Slaughter Steers—Choice (1,100-1,500 lbs.)	\$14.25-15.50	\$12.75-14.50	\$12.00-14.00
Slaughter Steers—Good	11.75-14.25	11.50-13.50	10.00-12.25
Slaughter Steers—Choice (900-1,100 lbs.)	14.50-15.50	13.75-14.75	12.25-14.00
Slaughter Steers—Good	11.75-14.25	11.75-13.75	10.25-12.25
Slaughter Steers—Med. (750-1,300 lbs.)	10.00-11.75	9.75-11.75	8.75-10.25
Fed Young Steers—Gd.-Ch. (750-900 lbs.)	14.50-15.50	11.75-13.75	12.25-13.75
Heifers—Good-Choice	11.25-14.50	11.00-14.00	9.75-12.50
Cows—Good	9.25-10.00	9.00- 9.75	8.00- 8.75
Vealers—Good-Choice	14.00-15.50	13.00-15.00	9.50-11.50
Calves—Good-Choice	10.00-11.25	10.00-11.25	8.00- 9.50
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Good-Choice	10.75-13.00	10.00-12.00	9.25-11.00
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Com.-Med.	8.75-11.00	8.50-10.50	7.50- 9.25
Hogs—Med. Weights (200-240 lbs.)	13.40-13.60	12.85-13.10	7.70- 8.05
Lambs—Good-Choice	11.50-12.15	11.50-12.10	10.05-11.10
Ewes—Good-Choice	6.75- 7.85	6.00- 7.00	5.75- 6.60

## CHICAGO WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES

	March 16, 1942	Feb. 16, 1942	March 14, 1941
<b>FRESH BEEF AND VEAL—</b>			
Steer—Choice (700 lbs. up)	\$20.00-21.00	\$19.00-20.00	\$18.00-20.00
Steer—Good	18.50-19.50	17.50-19.00	16.00-18.00
Steer—Choice (500-700 lbs.)	20.00-21.00	19.50-21.00	17.00-20.00
Steer—Good	19.00-20.00	18.00-19.50	15.00-18.00
Yearling Steer—Choice	20.50-21.50	20.00-21.50	17.00-19.00
Yearling Steer—Good	19.00-20.50	19.00-20.50	15.00-17.00
Cow—Commercial	15.50-16.00	16.00-16.50	13.00-14.00
Veal and Calf—Choice	20.00-22.00	20.00-21.00	16.00-18.00
Veal and Calf—Good	18.00-20.00	17.00-19.00	13.00-16.00
<b>FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON—</b>			
Lamb—Choice (all weights)	16.50-20.50	16.00-20.50	14.50-17.50
Lamb—Good	15.50-19.50	16.00-20.00	13.50-17.00
Ewe—Good	10.00-11.00	9.00-10.00	8.00- 9.00
Ewe—Commercial	9.00-10.00	8.50- 9.00	7.00- 8.00
<b>FRESH PORK CUTS—</b>			
Loin—8-12 lb. average	24.00-25.50	23.50-24.50	15.50-17.00

## HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

	March 1, 1942†	Feb. 1, 1942	March 1, 1941	Five-Yr. Av.
Frozen Beef	126,849,000	123,502,000	81,016,000	70,536,000
Cured Beef*	19,477,000	19,097,000	17,428,000	18,267,000
Lamb and Mutton, Frozen	8,149,000	8,228,000	4,448,000	5,008,000
Frozen Pork	299,165,000	288,232,000	405,524,000	293,941,000
Dry Salt Pork*	84,742,000	89,219,000	109,207,000	87,175,000
Pickled Pork*	239,137,000	236,208,000	277,179,000	287,492,000
Frozen and Cured Trimmings	116,228,000	123,229,000	88,883,000	93,462,000
Total Meats	893,747,000	887,715,000	983,685,000	855,881,000
Lard	226,519,000	204,405,000	317,431,000	205,604,000
Rendered Pork Fat	4,631,000	5,065,000	9,211,000	
Frozen Poultry	178,829,000	206,120,000	163,321,000	136,531,000
Creamery Butter	63,721,000	83,106,000	16,462,000	33,891,000
Eggs (case equivalent)	2,486,000	2,365,000	1,513,000	1,569,000

\*Cured or in process of cure. †Subject to revision.



## Candidates

"Look at my banner for the Royals," shouted Snooty, the Mountain Sheep, imagining himself parading a convention hall, jumping the gun on 1942 politics.

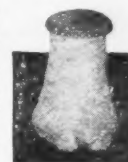
"I'm cheering for the Realities," chimed in Pachy, the Elephant's Foot.

Spike, the Gazelle Horns (another member of Alfred's trophy family), dashed on the scene crying, "Give me the Home Builders. They're going places."

Unaware that they were interrupting, Alfred and Ralph clumped into the room.

"You know, Ralph," said Alfred, with characteristic hesitation, "I'm just mighty glad to hear you say the purebred calves this year are the best we've ever had. I've thought so myself."

Snooty knowingly winked at Pachy and Gazelle Horns, then whispered, "Let's make it unanimous for Baca Grant Herefords—Realities, Royals, Home Builders, OJRs and all—GOOD CANDIDATES FOR ANY COWMAN."



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Alfred Collins, Walter Oldland,  
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\*Roland G. Hill, Horseshoe Cattle Co., Gustine, Calif., is another user of Painter bulls.



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# ROUND THE RANGE

## WESTERN RANGE AND LIVESTOCK REPORT

**W**INTER RANGES IN THE WEST fell off a little in condition during February and some shrinkage in cattle resulted from unfavorable weather, according to the Denver office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

A considerable part of the northern winter grazing area was snow-covered during the month and considerable feeding became necessary. Hay and other feeds were generally ample.

Winter ranges in Montana, western North Dakota, and Wyoming were mostly snow-covered, necessitating considerable feeding of livestock. Ranges and pastures were largely open in central and eastern North Dakota and South Dakota. Western Nebraska ranges were snow-covered, and heavy feeding was the rule, but feeds were ample. Colorado ranges were snow-covered except in the south-east, San Luis Valley, and lower Western Slope areas. Western Kansas pastures and wheat fields were in good condition, with large supplies of feeds. Oklahoma pastures were fair to good, with some shortages of feeds in the east due to heavy feeding. Texas ranges were fair to very good, with some early feed delayed by cool weather, but prospects for spring ranges were good. New Mexico

ranges were good to very good and sub-soil moisture favorable. Ranges were good to very good in the intermountain and northwestern states, but there was considerable snow-covering in Washington, eastern Oregon, Idaho, and parts of Utah and Nevada. These states had good soil moisture and favorable prospects for spring feed, which may develop a little late. Supplemental feeding was heavy in this group of states, with some local shortages and increased feed prices. California ranges and pastures were retarded by cool, frosty nights and light precipitation in the southern half of the state. Prospects will continue good with seasonal moisture and warm weather during March and April. Generally soil moisture conditions were very good in the western states.

Condition of western ranges on March 1, 1942, was 83 per cent, compared with 85 last month, 83 a year ago, and 75 for the 1932-41 average.

Cattle and calves wintered in good to very good condition but showed some shrinkage from cold, storms, and snow-covered ranges. Generally cattle were in above-average condition. Losses have been light. Hay and other feeds were ample in the northern cattle sections, with only local areas having shortages. There has been a strong, active demand for stocker and feeder cattle in Texas. West coast demand for killer cattle has


taken an unusually large number of animals from east of the main range.

Sheep showed a 2-point decline during February. They were generally in above-average condition, particularly in the northern areas. Winter losses have been light. There has been considerable supplemental feeding where ranges were snow-covered. In the Texas sheep section ranges deteriorated during the winter, with only fair condition reported on both sheep and ranges. Recent rains should improve feed there. Lamb crop prospects were fair to good in Texas, but prospects were poor for an early supply of grass-fat yearlings and wethers. Wool contracting became very active over the West in late February following some earlier activity.

## TIP ON WORK STOCK

C. L. Harlan, principal agricultural statistician of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., offers in an article on horses and mules in "Marketing Activities" a tip to people who are interested in work stock trends. "If the present advance in prices continues, and if the mechanical power situation becomes serious, another upturn in colt raising can be expected. This will tend to increase the demand for good brood mares. Farmers who are convinced that the war will last quite a while, and who wish to insure their farm power situation, may find brood mares at current prices a good investment."

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## LETTERS

(Continued from Page 3)

probable shortage of labor. Enemy aliens should be worked and fed, not just fed. We can handle Jap labor here without difficulty or much danger. Breeding cows are fewer than usual, but there are more common yearlings and calves, a regrettable lack of quality in many of the shipped-in stock. Fed lambs are going out in an orderly way. There are not many cows on feed but about the usual number of steers, though of lighter weights, meaning less tonnage unless carried longer than usual.—J. D. CRAIG-HEAD, Otero County, Colo.

### DOING THEIR UTMOST

I am quite busy during these times but I manage to take time to read the PRODUCER, as some articles mean much to my business. Livestock is doing well this winter. We have had quite a lot of cold weather; also more snow than usual, but feed was plentiful. So far it looks as though there will be many problems to face this summer. I think it will be a matter of each of us working out his own problems in this matter. The stockmen about here are all doing their utmost to produce as much as possible for our country's needs.—HENRY J. HILDREBRAND, Converse County, Wyo.

### NEED GOOD RAIN

Enclosed please find a one dollar bill for another year's subscription for one of the best cattle magazines published. Ranges in the Seymour area are needing a good rain right now to make a good spring grass pasture. We have not had so much rain as in former years. Cattle have wintered fairly well but are not going to be as heavy as they had figured earlier. We have been having a very good demand for good yearlings and aged steers for spring delivery and real good yearlings are still available in this vicinity for spring delivery at prices that are well in line with the present market.—DON C. MARTIN, Baylor County, Tex.

### LOOKS FOR HEAVY CALF CROP

The winter in southeastern New Mexico has been mild to date. February has been cold and dry, with only one light snow and no rain. Stock is wintering in good shape, with more cottonseed cake and "cubes" being fed than usual. The country is covered with dry grass from the heavy rainfall of last summer and

fall, but this old grass doesn't seem to have the strength that it has had following drier summers, hence the increased use of cube concentrates. Mineralized salt is also being quite generally fed. Indications are that the calf crop will be heavy and early.—E. L. LUSK, Chavez County, N. M.

### WILL PLANT LOTS OF FEED

We have had mild winter weather so far, with one cold snap the first part of the season. Excessive rains came along the coast the first part of March, extending into the western part of the state but we did not get as much out here as was needed. Cattle are wintering fairly well. Not much feeding is being done except in the case of calves weaned for stocker purposes. Expect to plant lots of feed crops this year.—T. J. POOLE, JR., Matagorda County, Tex.

### CATTLE LOOKING FINE

Cattle are looking fine. We had probably one of the nicest winters I have seen here in the thirty-four years I have lived here, but we had about one foot of snowfall in the past twenty-four hours. Up to that time (March 9) we had only .18 for November, 1941; .30, December, 1941; .04, January, 1942. Up to February 21 our range was open—not a speck of snow.—H. A. BURY, Golden Valley County, N. D.

### STATE'S BEST YEAR

We are experiencing one of the finest winters in the history of North Dakota. All classes of livestock are in fine condition at this writing (late February) and a substantial amount of feed and forage of all kinds will be carried over. The year 1941 will go down in history as one of the state's best years.—GEO. M. ROBINSON, McLean County, N. D.

### NO EXTRA FEED NEEDED

I have been in South Dakota for thirty-six years and can truthfully say that we have had the best winter ever experienced here. We had a lot of rain early last fall and the grass never was better. Cattle are in fine condition and have not required any extra feed so far this winter.—ARTHUR GIFFORD, Lyman County, S. D.

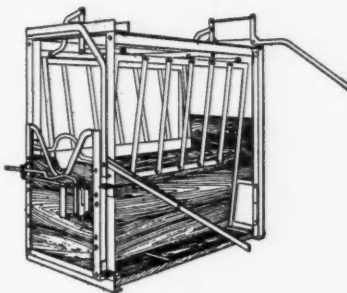
### WETTEST SEASON

We have had the wettest season for the past twelve months that many people have seen, and old-timers have to look back down the years to recall



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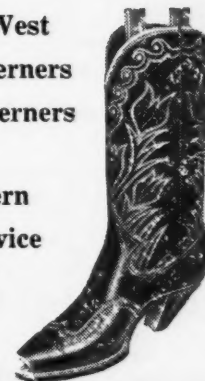
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any wetter one. Cattle have done very well, and as there is plenty of feed in the country the backward spring will cause the stockmen less anxiety.—HENRY LAZINKA, Umatilla County, Ore.

#### CAUTIONS IN FEED COSTS

This has been a very mild and favorable winter for all livestock operations in the cut-over district of Minnesota. All classes of livestock have done well and have been handled with profit. Feed costs are getting a little high and caution is needed in handling for future operations.—F. F. BENSON, Crow Wing County, Minn.

#### OUTLOOK FAVORABLE

It has been a good winter on livestock. There has been plenty of feed, and livestock of all kinds are in good condition. It looks as if we will have a good calf crop.—Ed T. Ross, Bennett County, S. D.

#### BORDER CONDITIONS NORMAL

Conditions here on the border are about normal. Cattle have wintered fairly well. There is plenty of grass but dry, as is usual at this season of the year. There are about the usual number of steers to go to Kansas grass in April.—R. E. GATES, Webb County, Tex.

#### MORE BUYERS THAN CATTLE

Cattle are wintering okeh in this country, with no losses to speak of. We will have an early spring, as we have a deep season in ground. There are more buyers than there are cattle to sell.—C. E. LEDBETTER, Eastland County, Tex.

#### FINEST IN FIFTY YEARS

I have been in this county fifty years this spring, and this is the finest winter I have witnessed—lots of feed on the ground and lots of hay in the stack, very

little feeding being done, quite a bit of moisture that mostly went in the ground, and stock in good shape.—W. J. MONNETT, Campbell County, Wyo.

#### WINTERED WELL

Cattle have wintered well here. Little cold and not too much rain have been a great benefit to cattle. Prices are still good. I enjoy the PRODUCER. It is through the magazine that I keep up with conditions all over the country.—R. B. SHAW, Colorado County, Tex.

#### EXPECTS LATE SPRING

Looks like a late spring, with best prospects for grass and crops since 1932. Looks like ma and pa and the kids will put up the feed this time, but if the boys in service can take it I guess we can.—W. E. BENNETT, Haakon County, S. D.

#### LIKES BOOKKEEPING BOOK

Please send me another of the cattleman's account book put out by the American National Live Stock Association. We used one last year and found it very practical.—STANLEY VAN VLECK, Sacramento County, Cal.

#### 100 PER CENT CALF CROP

Range conditions in Harding County are the best they have been in many years. Stock of all kinds is in fine shape and there is worlds of grass. Prospects are for a 100 per cent calf crop.—GEORGE HETT, South Dakota.

#### CATTLE NUMBERS SAME

Stock is in good condition and still on hay. This has been a very wet, cold winter. Grass should be good by April 1. Cattle numbers are about the same as the last ten-year average.—FRANK IVERSON, Lassen County, Cal.

#### ONLY CALVES FED

Had a fine winter till about March 1, when we got quite a snow. It has been very cold since. Nothing has been fed but calves up till now (March 9).—J. M. BUCKLEY, Fallon County, Mont.

#### HARD WINTER

We had a very hard winter here, and it is still cold. There is plenty of feed for all the livestock—ORRIN C. MILLS, Cook County, Ore.

We have had a very mild winter here. All livestock in Harding County is in excellent condition.—PAUL G. AMES, Harding County, S. D.

The farm census found Montana had 1,318 farms of 5,000 acres or more in 1940; Wyoming, 1,070; and New Mexico, 1,352 in the same classification.

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